

Lebanese helicopter crashes into sea

BEIRUT (Agencies) — A Lebanese army helicopter exploded in mid-air Saturday and crashed into the Mediterranean north of Beirut, apparently killing both navigators on board, police said. Police attributed the explosion to a "technical fault." The French-designed Puma "was seen on fire seconds before it exploded at 12:20 p.m. (1020 GMT)," some 28 kilometres north of Beirut. It said a naval vessel later found the bodies of George Sadaga and John Kazi. The Lebanese army refused to give further details of the incident which reduced to 10 the number of Puma helicopters still owned by the air force. Five helicopters and the Lebanese navy immediately launched a search for the missing men, who put out an SOS call before they crashed. More than half an hour later there was still no sign of them, police said. "There were no traces from the helicopter or the crew," they said, adding that the crash occurred one kilometre off the coastline. Police said the helicopter was on a flight from the Adma military air base, 26 kilometres north of Beirut, to the nearby makeshift Halat airport, when the incident occurred.

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King sends message to Saudi leader

RIYADH (Petra) — King Fahd Ibn Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia Saturday received a message from His Majesty King Hussein dealing with bilateral relations as well as current developments in the Arab situation. The message was delivered to King Fahd by Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasbi.

Cabinet endorses death sentences

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet Saturday endorsed a military court ruling that sentenced two involved in the killing of money exchanger Muhi Al Din Al Bashiti to death. During its regular session, the Cabinet decided that the Department of Antiquities should come under the authority of the newly-formed Ministry of Culture and National Heritage. The council of ministers, chaired by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai also discussed and approved a legislation that merges the Ministry of Communication and the Postal Savings Fund in a new entity called the General Corporation for Post and Postal Savings and to put it under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Transport and Communication. The Cabinet also discussed the principles governing the organisation of the Ministry of Irrigation and Water.

Oil products sales go up

AMMAN (Petra) — The sales of oil products by the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company (JPRC) registered an increase of four per cent in 1987 over 1986, the company said Saturday. A total of 2,972,259 metric tonnes of oil products were sold during 1987 up from 2,852,813 metric tonnes sold in 1986, the company said.

Iraq reports 22 Iranians killed

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said Saturday its forces killed 22 Iranian soldiers in ground clashes on the Gulf war front during the past 24 hours. A military spokesman said 11 Iranian infantry positions were destroyed along with four machineguns and an artillery gun. Thirteen of the Iranians were killed on the central sector of the front, about 120 kilometres east of Baghdad, and the rest on other sectors, he said.

New Iraqi justice minister named

BAGHDAD (R) — President Saddam Hussein issued a decree Saturday appointing a new head for Iraq's Justice Ministry. The new minister, Akram Abdul Kader Ali, was head of the state consultative council. Munther Ibrahim, who had been justice minister for nearly 10 years, moved to the vacant post of higher education and scientific research minister.

Pakistan declines comment on reports of nuclear shipment

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Pakistan's minister of foreign affairs declined Saturday to comment on recent West German reports that Pakistan received weapons-grade nuclear material from Europe. "We have no comments so far," said Zain Noorani, when asked about the reports from Bonn. "I will first like to see the reports before making any comment," he added.

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Goulding caught up in Balata clash • Settlers shoot and wound Arabs • Israeli rally calls for just solution

Curfews and siege fail to quell Palestinian revolt

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza kept up anti-occupation protests Saturday despite an increased Israeli military presence in the occupied territories.

In the West Bank, a senior United Nations official was caught up in a clash between Israeli soldiers and Palestinian protesters when he visited a Palestinian refugee camp, reports from the area said. Jewish settlers shot and wounded at least two Palestinians in the village of Silwad and two Israeli soldiers were hurt by stones thrown by demonstrators near Hebron, the Palestine Press Service (PPS) said.

Protests erupted Saturday in at least eight West Bank towns and refugee camps despite steady rain that kept many Palestinians indoors.

In the Gaza Strip, all eight refugee camps remained under curfew as part of a new tactic to keep protesters under the economic pressure of being unable to go to work. Five West Bank refugee camps also were under curfew, the army said.

Meanwhile, 70 Palestinians re-

mained under treatment for injuries suffered in a storming of Jerusalem's Al Aqsa Mosque by Israeli soldiers Friday.

In the West Bank town of Ramallah, a Roman Catholic priest said he was beaten with wooden clubs and rifle butts by troops on a routine patrol who had asked him to produce his identity papers.

"I told them I was a priest and had a Vatican passport but not an Israeli I.D.," Faisal Hijazeen told Reuters. "They asked me to stand against the wall and raise my hands so they could search me. And all of a sudden they started to beat me."

Rubber bullets landed near U.N. Under-Secretary-General Marrack Goulding as he visited Balata refugee camp in the West Bank and his aides "smelled a whiff of tear-gas (but) there was never any danger" to Goulding, Bill Lee, a chief U.N. spokesman in the Middle East, told the AP.

U.S. Consul Morris Draper called on the Israelis to ease restrictions against Palestinians in the occupied territories and "let the people there breathe a little."

A Palestinian was wounded by rubber bullets in Jabalya refugee camp in the Gaza Strip, Gaza hospital officials said.

A rift over how to handle the persistent protests, meanwhile, was growing within Israel, with a group of Israelis demonstrating against government policy and Tel Aviv's mayor demanding the government relinquish the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The incident at Balata, about 60 kilometres north of Jerusalem, occurred after hundreds of Palestinians gathered to talk to Goulding. The Israelis apparently mistook the group for a crowd of protesters, Lee said.

The army confirmed only that protesters broke out and that soldiers fired rubber bullets and tear-gas before imposing a curfew. A spokesman said he knew nothing about Goulding's visit.

Goulding is preparing a report for the United Nations. He told the British Broadcasting Corporation Israel's policy "in the judgement of the whole of the international community has

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ICRC says it helpless in case of expelled Palestinians

BEIRUT (R) — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) sought Israeli acceptance Saturday for the return of four Palestinians expelled from the occupied West Bank but it said they could not be returned without such agreement.

"The ICRC does not have the means to force Israel or any state to accept them. We should wait for a political agreement before making any move," Dominique Gross, chief delegate of the ICRC in Lebanon, told Reuters.

He said the ICRC was seeking that agreement from Israel. "Our action then will depend on the Israeli answer," he said.

Gross said countries that signed the 1949 Geneva Convention on the protection of civilians in wartime should force Israel "to respect the agreement and oblige it to return the four men to their homeland."

Israel expelled the four to Lebanon Wednesday after accusing them of instigating anti-occupation protests.

Gross said Jibril Mahmoud Rajub, 34, Bashir Ahmad Khayri, 45, Hussam Hader, 26, and Jamal Jabara, 28, spent their second night at an ICRC office in the village of Ksara, east of Beirut. The four activists had appealed to the ICRC to return them to their homes or hand them over to any other international organisation outside Lebanon.

They are the first of nine Palestinians who Israel said it would expel, despite strong international condemnation and two U.N. Security Council resolutions urging it not to do so.

Vow of suicide mission

Rajub vowed in an interview with Reuters Friday that he and his comrades would carry out a suicide mission against Israel if they could not return to their homes.

"We will stage a hang-glider attack or will infiltrate as human bombs with explosives belted around our waists," he said.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) took the four men to Ksara Thursday.

Gross said an ICRC official, Michel Dufour, had been sent to Ksara Friday "to meet the four and convey to them our position."

Israel preparing for war, British Liberals warn

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Israel is preparing for war, probably against Syria, for the sole purpose of expelling Palestinians from the occupied territories, the British Liberal Party warned Saturday.

In a statement issued to the Jordan Times and the Sunday Times, the Liberal Party said it noted with grave concern "the appearance throughout the Western press last weekend of stories originating in Israel, of a nerve gas production system in Syria that Israeli sources indicated might need to be taken out in a preemptive strike."

In an earlier letter to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, Lord Winchilesea, a Liberal leader, suggested that a large-scale expulsion of Palestinians from the occupied areas would be an inevitable result of any large-scale conflict.

"In fact it is now becoming clear that the policy of hardiness in Israel is to provoke a general conflict in order to carry out just such a programme of expulsion, under the camouflage of the chaos of war."

Lord Winchilesea said in Saturday's statement that he saw no alternative at this point "but to level a specific charge against the Israeli government of deliberate seeking to start another war in the Middle East for the sole purpose of expelling the Palestinians from Jerusalem, Gaza and the West Bank."

He noted that "recent moves by the U.S. to distance itself from Israel are yet another danger

signal, while very welcome at the same time."

Lord Winchilesea, a senior member of the Liberal Party who last month led a delegation to Jordan and the occupied territories, noted a significant Israeli military presence and considerable tension in the area of the Al Aqsa Mosque.

"We feel that any attempt by the Israeli forces to move into the grounds of the mosque would be treated as an act of extreme provocation to all Islamic countries, particularly those in the immediate area of Israel," the Liberal Party said.

"We further noted that such a provocation, carried out in one of Islam's holiest places, would place those moderate Arab regimes, many of which are currently seeking an accommodation with Israel, in an impossible position in relation to their own internal problems with Islamic fundamentalists."

The Liberal Party said it was "convinced that the present violence against Islamic places of worship, as well as against the unarmed people of the occupied territories, has brought the Middle East closer to war than at any time since the invasion of Lebanon in 1982."

The statement was signed by Lord Winchilesea, press officer Kevin Cahill and the chairman of the Liberal foreign affairs panel, Robert Bradnock.

On Dec. 7, Lord Winchilesea warned the British prime minister that large-scale violence was imminent. On Dec. 9, the present uprising began.

Amal ends blockade of Palestinian refugee camps

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese Amal militia leader Nabih Berri lifted a military siege on three Palestinian refugee camps Saturday as a gesture of support for protests in the Israeli-occupied territories.

"Amal decided to lift its military siege around the camps as gift to our brothers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip," Berri told a news conference at his home in west Beirut.

The camps affected are Bouj Al Brajneh and Shatila in west Beirut and Rashidiyeh in the port town of Tyre, 80 kilometres south of Beirut.

The blockades were imposed as part of the "camps war" which broke out three years ago between the Shi'ite Amal militia and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

A seven-month total blockade

on the Beirut camps was partially lifted last April when Syrian troops moved in to end the camps war, in which at least 2,500 people died.

Palestinian sources described the lifting of the siege as the first step to the resumption of warm relations between the two groups.

"Berri's announcement means that all our people, including men, can move freely outside the camps without any obstacle," one source told Reuters.

He said freedom of movement at the camps would be guaranteed by observer groups comprising Palestinians, Amal, Lebanese security forces and Syrians.

Berri has previously offered to lift the siege on condition that Palestinians withdrew from Amal positions southeast of Sidon which they overran last October.

Egyptian leader briefs His Majesty on outcome of Gulf visit

King, Mubarak discuss W. Bank and Gaza

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak discussed Saturday the situation in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and the ongoing Palestinian uprising there.

The discussions made during a brief stopover President Mubarak made at Aqaba on his way home after concluding a visit to the Arab Gulf states and Iraq.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Mubarak briefed the King on the outcome of his talks with the leaders of the Arab Gulf states — Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman.

As the two leaders met, senior officials from both sides held a separate meeting and discussed bilateral relations and cooperation, Petra said. It did not give details.

The Egyptian president was accompanied by a delegation which included Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid, Minister for Cabinet Affairs Ataf Obeid and the director of President



His Majesty King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak during a short stop-over the Egyptian leader made at Aqaba on his way home from the Gulf Saturday (Petra photo)

Mubarak's office, Osama Al Baz.

Mubarak was also seen off from Aqaba by the King, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief

Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Field Marshal Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and other

senior officials and Egyptian Ambassador to Jordan Ihab Wahbe.

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Kuwait seeks OIC action

KUWAIT (AP) — The emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, has called for a summit of Islamic leaders to discuss a plan of action to counter Israel's actions against Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, a newspaper reported Saturday.

The daily Al Sayassah's report was published as newspapers across the Gulf devoted their editorials to the ongoing protests, denouncing Israel, praising the Palestinians and calling for Arab support.

Al Sayassah said Sheikh Jaber proposed a meeting of the Organisation of Islamic Conference's (OIC) chairmanship bureau to discuss "a plan of action."

The chairmanship bureau groups King Hassan II of Morocco, Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and Presidents Kenan Evren of Turkey, Mohammad Zia Ul Haq of Pakistan, Abdou Diouf of Senegal, Omar Bongo of Gabon and Mamnoon Abdul Gayoom of the Maldives.

The newspaper linked Sheikh Jaber's call to the arrival Friday in Kuwait of IOC Secretary-General Sharifuddin Pirzadeh. He met with the Kuwaiti emir Saturday.

The Kuwaiti News Agency (KUNA) said Pirzadeh denounced the "brutal, oppressive Zionist practices against unarmed Palestinian citizens in the occupied territories."

Arabs condemn Israel for storming Al Aqsa

Arab newspapers and government officials joined Saturday in condemning Israeli forces for baton-charging Palestinian protesters after Friday prayers on Jerusalem's Haram Al Sharif complex.

Witnesses quoted by Reuters said Israeli police fired dozens of tear-gas shells to disperse Palestinian demonstrators as worshippers were leaving the Al Aqsa Mosque.

About 70 people were injured, one doctor said, when the police charged into the demonstrators as tear-gas drifted into the mosque.

In Amman, Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat told Reuters the action at Al Aqsa was "part of the popular uprising in the occupied Arab territories."

In Damascus, Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk Al Sharras said the Palestinian protests "reflect clearly the sense of despair felt by the Palestinians in the occupied territories."

"The Israeli actions show the Zionist entity's brutal and suppressive policy against the Arabs," he added.

In Lebanon, Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah, spiritual

(Continued on page 3)

Iraq, Iran send messages to Gulf

KUWAIT (Agencies) — The vice-chairman of Iraq's ruling Revolutionary Command Council met the emir of Kuwait on Saturday to convey a message from President Saddam Hussein. Iraqi official news media had no word about the contents of the message, which was delivered by Izzat Ibrahim, but it came on the heels of talks in Baghdad between the Iraqi leader and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who just concluded a visit to the Gulf. Meanwhile, an Iranian envoy Saturday delivered a message from Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati to United Arab Emirates Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Rashid Abdullah, Tehran's official news agency reported. It said the Iranian Foreign Ministry director-general for Arab and African affairs, Mohammad-Hussein Lavasani, delivered the message during a meeting with Rashid in Abu Dhabi. Contents of the message were not disclosed. Diplomatic sources in the UAE said Lavasani probably was carrying Velayati's reply to a letter from Abdullah sent to Tehran with an envoy last Sunday.

Lebanon urges Security Council action for Israeli withdrawal

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Lebanon called on the Security Council Friday to condemn the "inhuman Israeli acts of aggression" in southern Lebanon and force Israel to withdraw unconditionally from Lebanese territory.

Ambassador Rashid Fakhoury, Lebanon's U.N. representative, also said Friday Israel should stop building roads and fences on the Lebanese side of the border and return the situation there to normal.

He was opening a Security Council debate first requested eight days ago but delayed while council members tried unsuccessfully to agree on a statement, instead of holding a formal session and adopting a resolution.

In a thinly veiled reference to the United States, Fakhoury said lack of unanimity on a statement was due to the "position of one permanent member of the council."

The United States is widely expected to veto a resolution containing many of the Lebanese demands that was circulated by the council's non-aligned members.

Israel did not speak at Friday's session and the council is to meet again Monday.

Gorbachev suggests SDI could wreck arms control

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has signalled the U.S. "Star Wars" anti-missile defence project could wreck prospects for cuts in strategic weaponry.

The Kremlin message was delivered in a speech reported by the official TASS news agency Saturday to members of a new International Committee on the Survival of Humanity.

"If the arms race moves out into space, it would bring destabilisation and that is why as a matter of principle it is impossible to agree with such a thought," Gorbachev said.

"Our view is that... it is impossible to work on disarmament in some areas and extend the arms race in others," Gorbachev added in what analysts said was a clear reference to "Star Wars," formally known as the strategic defence initiative (SDI).

TASS said he delivered the speech Friday.

Gorbachev's remarks came as talks were resuming between the superpowers in Geneva on a so-called START treaty to reduce their arsenals of intercontinental missiles by 50 per cent.

At their summit in Washington last month, he and President Ronald Reagan agreed to work for completion of the treaty for signing at a return summit in Moscow, probably in late spring.

Moscow presented a new draft accord in Geneva Friday but a U.S. spokesman rejected it, saying it appeared aimed at crippling SDI. Reagan has insisted he will pursue the programme, despite Soviet objections.

At a Moscow news conference earlier Saturday, senior Soviet officials representing the Foreign Ministry and the armed forces expressed optimism that a START accord could be reached.

Gorbachev told the new committee that if space became an arena for military competition "first of all, the threat to mankind would be preserved, and secondly, the waste of resources would continue."

"We are firm supporters of moving forwards without slowing the tempo of disarmament, and in this area we are ready to go a long way," he told the committee, which includes leading American scientists and public figures.

He said Moscow's constructive attitude had been shown in the long negotiations leading up to December's intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) treaty which he signed with Reagan in Washington.

"Even more flexibility and constructiveness will be necessary in dealing with strategic offensive weapons. It is all much more complicated, and that is why a constructive approach is needed."

"It is necessary that the trust that has begun to take shape between the partners in the negotiations should not be wrecked by one side trying to outsmart the other," Gorbachev added.

Iranians hit Japanese tanker

BAHRAIN (AP) — Iranian gunboats raided a Japanese-operated tanker in the mouth of the Gulf Saturday, leaving it "dead in the water," shipping executives said. It was the sixth attack in a week.

The executives said most of the Korean crew abandoned the 12,467-ton Rainbow when a fierce fire broke out after it was attacked with rocket-propelled grenades and machine guns.

But they said the fire was later extinguished, and the crew was expected to return to the Liberian-flag chemical tanker, which had taken on a load of methanol at an Arab Gulf port.

There were no reports of injury in the attack, which occurred off the tip of Oman in the Strait of Hormuz.

One shipping executive said the vessel was "dead in the water" and that tugs would probably have to tow it to a port.

Shipping sources said an Omani naval ship took on the crew when they left the Rainbow, and another helped extinguish the blaze. One source said a French warship in the area offered assistance, but there was no indication if the offer was accepted.

The Rainbow was the sixth ship reported attacked this week by the two Gulf war combatants following a two-week pause that saw only one attack, an apparently accidental Iraqi raid on a Greek-owned freighter.

Iran reportedly behind plot to blow up Bahraini refinery

LONDON (R) — A Saudi-owned newspaper published here said on Saturday Iran was behind a plot revealed last month to blow up an oil refinery in the Gulf island state of Bahrain.

The Arabic-language Asharq Al Awsat said one of three men arrested in connection with the plot, an engineer at the Bahrain Petroleum Company (Bapco) refinery, had been trained in sabotage by Iranian intelligence.

Bahrain on Jan. 4 said it had uncovered an underground cell aimed at undermining the economy and installations on the island about 200 kilometres across the Gulf from Iran.

It said one of three men arrested "admitted he had been trained on using arms and explosives in a training camp outside Bahrain, while the other two had admitted their involvement in supporting the plan."

It did not say where he was trained.

Asharq Al Awsat, quoting what it termed authorised Bahraini sources, said the Bahraini engineer, Nabil Baqer, had travelled to Tehran via Frankfurt in West Germany for training at a camp near Tehran.

The other two were named as Ahmad Hussein Mirza, an Iranian teacher at the Persian language school supervised by the Iranian embassy in Bahrain, and Khaled Abdul Rassoul Al Amiri, another Bahraini engineer employed by the Ministry of Power and Water.

The newspaper said the three belonged to a Tehran-based Bahrain opposition group, called the Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain and led by Hojatolislam Hadi Moudarresi, a former Iranian resident expelled from Bahrain.

It said Bahraini authorities had been watching Baqer since he had been approached by an Iranian intelligence officer to arrange his travel to Tehran.

The three men were arrested three days before they were due to sabotage the refinery, partly owned by a U.S. oil group, to coincide with the opening in Riyadh on Dec. 26 of the annual summit of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council, it said.

Quoting other sources in Bahrain, the newspaper said the plot was wider-ranging and involved plans to bomb targets such as the island's airport, the radio and television station, embassies, hotels, markets, and homes of senior officials.

It said the plotters also planned to storm the main jail in the capital Manama to free some of the men convicted of a conspiracy to overthrow the Bahrain government in 1981, the last time any opposition was reported in the island state.

Brazil lawmakers to study West Bank, Gaza rebellion

BRASILIA (R) — A delegation of 15 Brazilian congressmen headed for Israel's occupied territories to study the disturbances which have pitted Palestinians against Israelis, legislators have said.

The Israeli embassy has complained about the visit to the Brazilian government, calling it inopportune, unconstructive and an interference in Israel's domestic affairs, embassy spokesman Doni Goren said.

Israeli Ambassador Yitzhak Sarfati said the Brazilian legislators would be travelling to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip as tourists.

Goren quoted the ambassador as saying that "any local military commander will be able to stop the group moving around, in accordance with the operational rules in the area."

One Brazilian congressman, Amaury Muller, told Reuters the ambassador's statements were an attempt at intimidation.

Muller, of the leftwing Democratic Labour Party (PDT), said by telephone from Rio de Janeiro that the delegation had been authorised by congress to "check the situation of violence which the Palestinian people lives in the territories occupied by Israel."

He added: "We are not going as simple tourists. We are Brazilian legislators, with diplomatic passports. We are going to observe, without intimidation, what is happening to the Palestinian people, which has a legitimate right to hold its territory and make its history, as Brazilian diplomacy recognises."

Foreign Ministry officials and the Israeli embassy denied a report in the Jornal do Brasil newspaper that Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres had telephoned Brasilia to express his official displeasure at the planned visit.

At least 38 Palestinians have been killed by Israelis in five weeks of protests in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Shultz: Soviets slow on imposing Iran embargo

NEW YORK (R) — Secretary of State George Shultz has said that the Soviets were moving too slowly toward a United Nations Security Council resolution imposing an arms embargo on Iran, the New York Times said.

"The Soviets seem to be reluctant about the follow-on resolution," the Times quoted Shultz as saying in a luncheon interview with its Washington staff.

Shultz said "we haven't made as much headway as we should have" on a draft of a resolution following up on a U.N. measure last July in which the Security Council demanded both Iran and Iraq agree to an immediate ceasefire.

"The Soviets have been moving, but not very fast" on a U.N. move to put an end to the seven-year-old war, the newspaper quoted Shultz as saying in its Saturday edition.

After more than three months of pressure by the United States, the Soviet Union joined the 14 other Security Council members on Christmas Eve in publicly announcing a readiness to proceed with an embargo on sending

arms to Iran, which had refused to accept the July 20 U.N. demand.

The five permanent members of the Security Council — the United States, China, Britain, France and the Soviet Union — have met three times since then, but their progress has been held up by Soviet insistence on a U.N. Gulf naval task force.

"Before you talk about military forces, you should talk about what those military forces are supposed to do," Shultz said.

"What is the mission? They (the Soviets) haven't made a clear statement about what this mission would be."

A U.S. naval task force has been present in the Gulf since last summer to escort 11 Kuwaiti tankers flying U.S. flags.

Soviet Ambassador Aleksandr Belonogov told Reuters on Thursday that "We think that there may be a time when such a resolution will become absolutely necessary."

But he told reporters that Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar should first have more talks with Tehran and Iraq.

Iranian father and son held in U.S. arms sting

BOSTON (R) — An Iranian importer and his U.S. resident son were arrested on Friday on charges of trying to buy high-tech weapons parts for illegal export to Iran, U.S. Customs Service officials said.

They said the father and son were arrested by customs agents after paying \$280,000 — including a \$100,000 bribe intended for an arms firm official — for missile radar parts during a sting operation in a Boston railroad yard.

Ahmad Madoressi, 64, who owns Anahid Import Export Co. of Istanbul, Turkey and Tehran and his son, Majid of Cincinnati, were ordered held for a hearing on Tuesday. The younger man is

married to an American woman, a customs spokesman said.

The pair could face up to \$1 million in fines and 15 years in prison each if convicted of violating the U.S. Arms Export Control Act and conspiracy.

William Simmons, customs special agent in charge, said the younger Madoressi contacted an official of a suburban Boston firm that makes the Hawk missile system and asked for military spare parts. A customs spokesman identified the firm as Raytheon Corp.

The executive immediately contacted customs agents and an undercover operative was assigned to the case.

Sofaer: Closing PLO's U.N. office violates law

NEW YORK — Abraham Sofaer, the State Department legal adviser, says that closing the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) observer mission to the United Nations, as Congress has mandated, would violate international law.

Sofaer said in an interview recently that shutting the 13-year-old mission could result in a lawsuit against the United States in the International Court of Justice in The Hague.

He said the congressional mandate "has the clear implication that Congress doesn't care if it violates international law."

"We think that's unfortunate," he added.

Sofaer's remarks are the clearest to date that the administration believes it cannot legally close the PLO mission. State Department officials have expressed concern that a battle with the United Nations over the PLO office would prompt widespread criticism from Arab governments and even the United States' closest allies, and would engender widespread sympathy for the PLO.

Last month, the General Assembly voted 125 to 1 to affirm the PLO's right to maintain its mission. Israel cast the only negative vote, while the United States refused to participate.

"It is not good for the United States to be sued or to be taken to the United Nations to a media trial and to be challenged by the U.N. General Assembly on the legitimacy of its decisions relating to its functions as host country," Sofaer said.

— The New York Times.

Hopes raised for imminent release of Cordes as Genscher meets Assad

DAMASCUS (R) — West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher held talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad on Saturday amid renewed hopes for the imminent release of West German hostage Rudolf Cordes in Lebanon.

High-ranking Syrian Foreign Ministry officials said Damascus had intensified its efforts to gain the release of foreigners missing in Lebanon and believed kidnapped by militant pro-Iranian groups.

Genscher discussed the hostage issue with Foreign Minister Farouk Al Shara after he arrived in Syria on Friday for an official visit. West German Foreign Ministry spokesman Jurgen Chrobog told Reuters.

"Genscher expressed Germany's thanks to Syria for the role it played with other parties to obtain the release of former hostage Alfred Schmidt and expressed hope that similar efforts be exerted for Cordes," Chrobog said.

Cordes, who enters his second year in captivity on Sunday, and Schmidt, who was freed in September, were seized by a group calling itself the Freedom Strugglers in retaliation for the arrest of Lebanese hijack suspect Mohammad Ali Hamadi in Frankfurt.

In Beirut, the weekly magazine Ash Shira on Friday quoted "highly knowledgeable" sources as saying secret negotiations for the release of Cordes had come to a halt.

It said the kidnappers were waiting for the result of the trial in Duesseldorf of Hamadi's brother Abbas, accused of taking part in the abduction of Cordes.

Chrobog said Genscher also told Shara that terrorism had to

be fought throughout the world. Syria's ambassador to West Germany, Saleman Haddad, said the visit by Genscher, whose country is current chairman of the European Community, signalled an important step in boosting relations between Syria and West Europe.

Relations were strained after Britain accused Damascus of involvement in trying to sabotage an airliner in 1986 and senior European officials were banned from going to Syria.

The ban was lifted after 10 months and French Foreign Minister Jean-Bernard Raimond visited Damascus last October. His visit was followed by the release of two French hostages in Lebanon.

Haddad said the West's accusation that Syria supported terrorism had proved incorrect. Syria condemned all acts of terrorism and had called for an international conference to define what constituted terrorism, he said.

Asked whether any moves had been made to normalise relations between Syria and Britain, severed in 1986 over the plane bomb charge, Haddad said nothing had been done and the matter was a British affair.

Before his talks with Assad, Genscher met Prime Minister Mahmoud Al Zubi to review economic and commercial cooperation between Syria and West Germany, officials said.

He also met Vice-President Abdul Haleem Khaddam to discuss the Palestinian unrest in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and developments in the Iran-Iraq war.

Syria, Iran's main Arab ally, launched a new bid earlier this month to defuse tensions in the Gulf region and to prevent the

war spilling over to other Gulf Arab countries.

Shara, who toured Gulf states with Khaddam, told Reuters the effort had created a positive atmosphere for setting up a dialogue between the Gulf Arabs and Iran.

Ash Shira, which first disclosed a U.S. arms-for-hostages deal with Iran in November 1980, said in its report:

"The issue of the foreign hostages in Lebanon has lately been further complicated... 'Behind-the-scenes negotiations that were being carried on for the release of a certain hostage or a number of others have stopped — mainly those concerning the German captive Rudolf Cordes.'"

Ash Shira said captors of French hostages in Lebanon are waiting for France to fulfil certain pledges it gave them when French captives Roger Anque and Jean Louis Normand were freed last Nov. 27.

"The promises by the French are mainly those concerning the decrease of their military presence in the Gulf area as a prelude for their final withdrawal," the weekly said.

Five French nationals are missing in Lebanon. The pro-Iranian Islamic Jihad says it holds three and has executed a fourth. No group has claimed the abduction of the fifth.

Ash Shira said negotiations over American hostages had stopped at a much earlier stage. It did not elaborate.

Cordes, the five French nationals and nine Americans are among 24 foreigners missing and believed kidnapped in Lebanon by radical groups seeking to barter concessions with Western countries.

West still sceptical about joint Gulf naval force

By Stephen Jukes
Reuters

BAHRAIN — A Soviet proposal for a joint U.N. naval force to protect Gulf shipping met with a cool response in the West, but may offer the only way out of political deadlock over an Iran arms embargo, regional diplomats said.

Western nations are unlikely to go along with Moscow's demand to submit their warships in the Gulf to a U.N. command. But a small force to patrol the entrance to the Gulf in the Strait of Hormuz and to enforce an embargo against Tehran may be an acceptable compromise.

"If the West and Moscow make the effort, a small force could be workable," said one Western diplomat.

"It might not be 100 per cent effective but at least it would break the impasse at the U.N. and revive peace efforts."

Western nations have three main objections to a large force patrolling the length of the Gulf.

Strategic: A U.N. force would allow Moscow to increase its foothold in the Gulf after a series of diplomatic setbacks.

Military: NATO naval commanders are said to be concerned

about working bow to bow with the Soviet navy which could examine at close quarters latest technology and weapons.

Practical: Co-ordination among NATO navies and standardisation of communications equipment has made great advances. But liaison with Soviet ships could prove difficult.

The U.N. Security Council's unanimous resolution calling for a ceasefire in the Iran-Iraq war, passed on July 20 last year, has become bogged down after Tehran's refusal to comply.

NEWS ANALYSIS

And the Council's five permanent members, the United States, Britain, France, the Soviet Union and China, have been unable to agree on an arms embargo to back the original peace demand.

Moscow has recently indicated it would be willing to drop its objections to sanctions — urged by Washington and London — if a U.N. force was set up. But diplomats say that would mean Western navies surrendering independent control of their warships now playing the Gulf.

U.S. Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci, on his first tour of the region since taking over the top

Pentagon job two months ago, showed little enthusiasm for the idea during his recent visit to Kuwait. But he did not shut the door completely, diplomats said.

He told newsmen Washington was prepared to discuss it and listen to constructive ideas but added the concept was "vague."

The United States has 17 warships assigned to its Middle East Task Force protecting 11 U.S.-flag Kuwaiti oil tankers. Another 16 American warships are on standby.

Britain's Armilla Patrol has two warships in the Gulf and one on standby, while France and the Soviet Union have also been escorting vessels flying their own flags.

Diplomats said Washington would be reluctant to cede a strategic advantage to Moscow which has so far failed to win port facilities in the Gulf.

One of the main reasons the U.S. agreed to step up its naval presence last July was to counter a diplomatic offensive by Moscow which had secured far closer relations with Gulf states.

But Soviet overtures to Iran late last year amid much of that progress and official media in the Gulf have turned increasingly hostile, accusing Moscow of play-

ing a double game.

A U.N. force, with a degree of international anonymity, would have the advantage of reducing political concern building in Britain and the United States that navies could get sucked into an open conflict with Iran, diplomats said.

December's tally of 35 attacks on shipping by Iran and Iraq was the highest since the tanker war began in 1984. British and American warships have become increasingly active on the fringes of attacks, phucking crewmen by helicopter from blazing ships and shielding foreign tankers from Iranian raids.

Diplomats and Western military sources said a possible outcome of U.N. negotiations would be a small task force of five or six vessels to enforce an embargo and check all ships entering the Strait of Hormuz for Iran-bound weapons.

Such a force would be manageable. But to be successful, the operation would have to secure the political agreement of Oman — which polices shipping traffic in the channel.

Gulf-based shipping sources estimate that no more than about 15 cargo vessels and tankers enter the strait each day.

TV & RADIO

WHAT'S GOING ON

FOR THE TRAVELLER

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

JORDAN TELEVISION	BBC WORLD SERVICE
Tel. 77111-19	639, 720, 1223 KHz
PROGRAMME ONE	
15:30	Koran
15:50	Programme Review
15:55	Cartoons
16:05	Dennis the Menace
16:25	Children's programmes
17:20	Walt Disney
17:45	Local programme
18:15	Soccer
19:10	Local agricultural programme
19:45	Programme review
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Arabic series
21:30	Programme on Jordan
22:00	T.V. Magazine (local)
23:00	News Summary
23:10	Close down
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:00	Rac Carrot
18:30	L'Ecole des Faus
19:00	News in French
19:15	International Circus Festival
19:30	News in Hebrew
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Farrington of the F.O.
21:10	Ernest Hemingway (documentary)
22:00	News in English
22:30	Secret Army
RADIO JORDAN	
855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz FM & partly on 5660 KHz, SW	
Tel. 77411-19	
07:00	Liphi Music
07:30	News Summary
08:00	Morning Show
08:30	News Summary
11:05	In Concert
12:00	News Summary
12:30	Pop Talk
13:00	News Summary
13:05	Pop Session cond.
14:00	News Bulletin
14:10	Instrumentals
14:30	Concert Hour
15:00	News Summary
16:00	Instrumentals
16:30	Old Favourites
17:00	Listeners' Choice
18:00	News Summary
18:05	Rhythm and Blues
19:00	News Bulletin
19:30	Date with a Star
20:00	Evening Show
21:00	News Summary
21:05	Evening Show continued
22:00	News Summary
22:05	Evening Show continued
23:00	News Summary
23:05	News Headline
24:00	Close Down

TODAY'S EVENTS	
★ A painting exhibition by German artist Ingeborg Grosjean at the Spanish Cultural Centre (until Jan. 30).	
★ An exhibition about medical research in France at the French Cultural Centre (until Jan. 28).	
★ An exhibition about the Holocaust at the Jewish Museum (until Jan. 28).	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 661026/7	American Centre 64371
British Council 636147/8	French Cultural Centre 637009
Goethe Institute 641993	Soviet Cultural Centre 64203
Spanish Cultural Centre 624049	Turkish Cultural Centre 639777
Haya Arts Centre 651915	Husseini Youth City 671816
Y.W.C.A. 641793	Y.W.M.C.A. 664251
Amman Municipal Library 637111	Univ. of Jordan Library 843555
MUSEUMS	
"Children's Heritage and Science Museum." Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.	
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.	
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Cinderella Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.	
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Mustafa Jabal Lweideh. Opening hours: 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.	
Martyrs' Memorial (Military	

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)	
09:15	Agaba (RJ)
09:30	Kuwait (RJ)
09:40	Jeddah (RJ)
09:45	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
10:00	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:45	Cairo (RJ)
17:00	London (RJ)
17:50	New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
18:00	Paris (RJ)
18:05	Frankfurt (RJ)
18:05	Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ)
18:15	Brussels, Geneva (RJ)
18:30	Madrid, Rome (RJ)
23:55	Baghdad (RJ)
OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)	
09:00	Berlin (IF)
09:35	Cairo (MS)
11:20	Damascus (AZ)
11:45	Kuwait (LN)
12:45	Sharja, Doha (GF)
12:55	Jeddah (SV)
13:45	Kuwait (KU)
15:30	Baghdad (IA)
16:35	Athens (OA)
18:25	Beirut (ME)
19:15	Frankfurt (LH)
21:05	Cairo (MS)
22:05	London, Cairo (BA)
DEPARTURES ROYAL JORDANIAN (RJ) FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)	
07:40	Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:00	Tunis, Casablanca (RJ)
12:30	Cairo (RJ)
19:40	Kuwait (RJ)
19:45	Dhahran (RJ)
19:45	Dubai, Muscat (RJ)
19:55	Baghdad (RJ)
20:00	Larnaca (RJ)
20:05	Jeddah, Sana'a (RJ)
21:15	Cairo (RJ)
21:30	Kuala Lumpur, Singapore (RJ)
22:00	Bangkok (RJ)
OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)	
09:00	Damascus, Paris (AF)
10:20	Cairo (MS)
10:30	Beirut (OF)
12:20	Rome (AZ)
13:00	Tripoli (LN)
13:45	Bahrain, Sharja (GF)
14:00	Jeddah (SV)
15:00	Kuwait (KU)
16:30	Baghdad (IA)
17:20	Athens (OA)
20:00	Sana'a (LH)
21:50	Cairo (MS)
MONEY EXCHANGE	
Saturday rates	
Local sell/buy rates in Jds	
Belgian franc	95.5 / 100.5
Dutch guilder	177.9 / 180.6
French franc	59.2 / 60.2
Italian lira	27.3 / 28.3
Japanese yen (per 100)	25.9 / 26.5
Swedish crown	56.9 / 57.8
Swiss franc	244.8 / 248.8
U.K. sterling pound	596.2 / 607.1
U.S. dollar	357 / 362
W. German mark	199.4 / 203
PRAYER TIMES	
05:11	Fajr
06:37	Sunrise
11:46	Dhuhur
14:54	Asr
15:30	Maghreb
16:29	Isha
WEATHER	
Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.	
It will be cold and rainy, associated with thunder and hail storm. There may be snowfall in the hilly areas. Winds will be southerly moderate to fresh. In Agaba, it will be cloudy with scattered thunderstorms. Winds will be southerly fresh and rough sea.	
Min./max. temp.	
Amman	21 / 7
Agaba	9 / 15
Deserts	60 / 40
Jordan Valley	250 / 200
Cumulus	80 / 50
Dates (box)	1100 / 800
Eggplant (large)	70 / 40
Garlic	260 / 200
Grapefruit	130 / 100

EMERGENCIES	GENERAL
Amman governorate	891228
Amman Civil Defence	198, 199
Civil Defence Irbid	271293, 273131
Civil Defence Qusweimah	770733
Civil Defence Deir Alla	57306
Amman fire brigade	193, 773111
Amman downtown fire brigade	198
First aid	639341
Blood Bank	778303
Civil Defence rescue	661111
Fire headquarters	62290-3
Police centre	192, 621111, 63177
Police headquarters	639141
Traffic police	8963901
Electric Power Co.	636381/4, 624881
Municipal water complaints	771258
Queen Alia Intl. Airport	(06)5333060
NIGHT DUTY	
AMMAN:	
Dr. Youssef Sweicat	821311
Dr. A. Abu Khalaf	635552
Dr. Youssef Smour	615648
Dr. Mohammed Abu Maifour	793344
Firas pharmacy	661912
Fawzi pharmacy	778333
Al Asena pharmacy	637653
Natrickh pharmacy	623672
Al Salam pharmacy	636730
Yacoub pharmacy	646495
Shmeisani pharmacy	637669
TAXIS:	
Abram taxi	663911
Venecia taxi	644585
Palestine taxi	671475
Shmeisani taxi	665174
Mehyar taxi	644574
Khayyam taxi	841577
Jordan taxi	623058
Arab taxi	644502
USEB:	
Dr. Atallah Naser	(-)
Shamsa's pharmacy	75825
ZARQA:	
Dr. Tarq Hijiawi	985048
Khalifah pharmacy	985417
MARKET PRICES	
Upper/lower price in Jds per kg.	
Apple (French)	420 / 360
Apple (green)	470 / 400
Banana	390 / 300
Banana (Guatemala)	300 / 240
Beans	350 / 250
Beans (broad)	550 / 450
Cabbage	60 / 40
Carrot	250 / 200
Cauliflower	80 / 50
Cucumbers	210 / 160
Dates (box)	1100 / 800
Eggplant (large)	70 / 40
Garlic	260 / 200
Grapefruit	130 / 100
Leamon	120 / 100
Mandarin	170 / 120
Marrow	130 / 180
Onion (green)	100 / 60
Onion (dry)	200 / 170
Oranges (Abu Surra)	200 / 220
Oranges (Shmeisani)	220 / 160
Pepper (hot)	220 / 160
Pepper (sweet)	100 / 60
Potato	140 / 180
Raddish	70 / 50
Spinach	100 / 60
Tomatoes	150 / 180
Turnip	160 / 120

Jordan, Iraq review cooperation in transport

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khaled Al Haj Hassan Saturday discussed with Iraqi Ambassador to Jordan Ghafil Jassem Hussein scopes of cooperation in transport, telecommunications and postal services.

Director-General of the Iraqi-Jordanian Land Transport Company Jamil Ibrahim was present at the meeting.

The two sides reviewed the company's operations and future plans, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The company's board of directors last month reviewed reports

on the company's 1987 performance and plans for 1988. In addition, a decision was taken for the purchase of 150 new trucks for the company to promote the volume of goods transported between the two countries.

The reports said that control stations along the Aqaba-Baghdad route would be improved and expanded to cope with the increase in the company's fleet, which will number 900 with the arrival of the new shipments.

The reports showed that the company made a profit of JD 3 million in 1987.

Joint technical committee studies TV relay station

AMMAN (J.T.) — A specialised Jordanian-Egyptian technical committee Saturday reviewed a study on a television relay station in southern Jordan and its transmission of radio and television programmes between the two countries.

The technical committee will next discuss exchanging expertise between the Jordanian and Egyptian radio and television corporations, and the prospect of establishing a direct duplex line between the national news agencies of both countries, to ensure

speedy exchange of news.

The Egyptian side of the technical committee, which was formed by the Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee in its meeting in Cairo last month, arrived in Amman Friday evening.

At the conclusion of the December meetings of the joint higher committee, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and his Egyptian counterpart, Atef Sidki, signed minutes covering future cooperation in the fields of economy, trade, culture, information, tourism and health.

Building of JUST medical faculties project underway

IRBID (Petra) — Jordan University of Science and Technology has begun construction on its medical sciences faculties. The project, covering an area of 80,000 square metres, will take approximately three years to complete, and will include the faculties of medicine, dentistry, pharmacy and nursing.

This project is adjacent to the King Abdullah Training Hospital, which will be set up in the near future.

The hospital, with a capacity of 643 beds, will offer medical services to citizens in the northern region, in addition to training students.

Jordan studies prospect of assisting W. Bank, Gaza students

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of Social Development Secretary-General Mohammad Sgour Saturday discussed with Andrei Habash from the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) headquarters in Jordan the possibility of accepting students from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip at ministry and voluntary organisation special education institutions.

He also said that the ministry will study the prospect of setting up new specialised institutions for the handicapped.

Sgour added that the ministry will do its utmost to help UNRWA in the rehabilitation and training of students, in order to ease their suffering.

Pharmacies invited to extend operating hours

AMMAN (J.T.) — Pharmacies throughout the Kingdom are invited to open their doors 24 hours a day to cater to the public's needs, Jordanian Pharmacists Association (JPA) President Tayseer Al Himsi said in a statement published Saturday.

He said that pharmacies in Zarqa have recently extended their daily operating hours from 11 to 12 hours because of the local demand for drugs.

In a statement to Al Ra'i Arabic daily Himsi said that opening pharmacies for 24 hours would also help reduce unemployment

among pharmacists.

The JPA, in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, is doing all it can to reduce unemployment among Jordanian pharmacists by helping them obtain jobs at local pharmacies or abroad, and by employing them in Jordanian pharmaceutical firms, Himsi noted.

He said that the rise in the price of foreign-made drugs was due mainly to the high rate of foreign exchange, and the price increase in medicine from West Germany and Switzerland, in particular.

Kuwait seeks Islamic plan

(Continued from page 1)

member of the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God), said Israel was guilty of "savage practices."

"We find in this Israeli onslaught against the worshippers at the Al Aqsa Mosque a proof of the Israeli mentality which refuses to respect all sacred sites," he told Reuters.

He urged the Palestinians to step up their protests, saying the only language which Israel understood was that of force.

Palestinian officials in Damascus said the Israeli storming at Al Aqsa constituted a challenge to international law and one Palestinian radio station suggested that Palestinians should in future hold their prayers outside mosques as a protest at the Israeli action.

Al Riyadh, a Saudi Arabian newspaper, said the U.N. Security Council should act against

Israel by ordering a decrease in material and military aid.

"Condemnation by itself is not a deterrent because the one who is taking action does not respect international law," it said.

In the United Arab Emirates, the daily Al Khaleej newspaper said a committee the newspaper has sponsored to collect donations in support of Palestinians under occupation has raised 400,000 dirhams (\$100,000).

Abu Dhabi's semi-official Al Itihad newspaper called for an Arab stand "for the sake of Jerusalem, for the sake of Al Aqsa, for the sake of all our holy shrines in Palestine."

The weekly Al Wahda of Abu Dhabi expressed surprise that there had been no Arab or Islamic movement to confront the "Zionist siege" of the Palestinians.

Lebanon appeals for Security Council action

(Continued from page 1)

In order to justify occupation under the slogan of its security needs, Salah said.

The aggression of the last few weeks left more than 200 casualties, including 49 persons killed in a single day, he said, and 95 per cent of victims were innocent civilians, many of them women and children. Salah said the Israeli attacks were not against Palestinian bases but were designed to empty the area taken over.

Israel's view of its security will lead to a transformation of the Middle East into a state of insecurity, instability and political and geographic anarchy unless the international community intervenes," Salah said.

The Security Council had a fresh opportunity to help Lebanon out of this tragedy, he said.

More than five years have now elapsed since the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon and the occupation was condemned by the international community and the Security Council, Salah

Kingdom marks Arbor Day with widespread tree-planting ceremonies

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein and Her Majesty Queen Noor Saturday attended Arbor Day celebrations in Amman and its suburbs and took part in tree-planting ceremonies along with officials and members of the public.

King Hussein attended the inauguration ceremony of the Al Hussein public garden in the Abu Nuseir housing estate. The King unveiled a plaque at the entrance of the garden.

The garden was set up by the Greater Amman Municipality in cooperation with the Ministry of Agriculture to offer recreational grounds for the housing estate's 22,000 inhabitants.



His Majesty King Hussein Saturday unveils a plaque at the opening of the Al Hussein public garden in the Abu Nuseir Housing estate, inaugurated as part of the Kingdom's celebration of Arbor Day (Petra photo)

Taking part in the tree-planting ceremonies with the King were: Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Ra'uf Al Rawabdeh other senior officials and high-ranking officers, as well as members of foreign diplomatic missions in Amman and members of the public.

Queen attends planting ceremonies

Queen Noor took part in tree-planting ceremonies at the public



Her Majesty Queen Noor Saturday plants a tree at a public garden opened as a part of Jordan's Arbor Day celebrations (Petra photo)

More snow and rain expected

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan is still affected by a polar cold front coming from Turkey, therefore, it will be cloudy and rainy today, according to the Department of Meteorology.

Meteorology Department Director Ali Abanda said that another cold front is expected to bring more thundery rains and hail, as well as snow in high regions of 800 or more metres.

He said that snow will accumulate on heights exceeding 1,100 metres.

Abanda cautioned drivers about poor visibility, fog and low clouds, and flooding in low areas and wadis.

The heavy rain which fell in Karak caused the flooding of a number of homes in the southern city and in the towns of Qasr, Mazar, Mu'ab and Ider.

Civil defence personnel opened culverts and canals to drain away the water from homes and to evacuate citizens to safer ground.

Well-known American bishop assumes new duties

WASHINGTON (J.T.) — Bishop John G. Nolan, who is well-known to many people in Jordan because of his work in the Pontifical Mission for Palestine and the Catholic Near East Welfare Association, today assumes his new duties in Washington.

Bishop Nolan was consecrated by Pope John Paul II in Rome on Jan. 6 in the same ceremony with the new Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem, His Beatitude Michel Sabbah.

Bishop Nolan has been actively involved in the Middle East since 1962. In 1966, he became secretary-general of the Catholic Near East Welfare Association (CNEWA) and president of the Pontifical Mission for Palestine. In those capacities, he has visited the Pontifical Mission for Palestine offices in Jerusalem, Beirut and Amman frequently and brought groups of priests, bishops, journalists and others to the area to help them obtain a better understanding of conditions. He has been an articulate spokesman in the United States.



Bishop John G. Nolan

Bishop Nolan's new assignment is as auxiliary bishop to serve in the Archdiocese for the Military Services whose headquarters are located in Silver Springs, Maryland.

There has been no announcement concerning Bishop Nolan's successor at Catholic Near East Welfare Association. That choice will be made by association's board, which consists of Cardinal John O'Connor of New York and six other bishops.

Curfews and siege fail to quell Palestinian revolt

(Continued from page 1)

He said it was the feeling of hopelessness among Palestinians, "especially in the refugee camps — their conditions are pretty bad — which has led to this kind of crisis."

"I don't think that anybody who visits the occupied territories, and especially the refugee camps in Gaza, can fail to be very troubled by what he or she sees," Goulding said.

"It's not just the physical squalor of the camps. It's also the despair, the total lack of hope..."

At the entrance to the Gaza Strip, about 200 Israelis mustered in rain and hail behind police barricades chanting "Defence Minister Rabin, how many kids did you kill today?" and "Israel, Palestine, two peoples, two nations."

Facing them across the road, a knot of Jewish settlers held a placard saying: "Traitors, you have gone too far."

Tel Aviv Mayor Shlomo Lahat, a member of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc, called on Israel to adopt "a general policy directed at returning all the territories, apart from East Jerusalem, in return for peace."

Israel Radio said the youth wing of the right-wing Herut movement demanded Lahat's expulsion from the Likud.

U.S. Consul Draper called on Israel to "think about ways to lift some of the unnecessary constraints" against Palestinians.

"There is a body of regulations and laws and tradition and habit

that falls on virtually every aspect of Palestinian life," Draper said in a speech at Jerusalem's Hebrew University.

"It's not necessary to have to have this minute control over every little aspect of Palestinian life," he said. "Israel has to find some way to let the people breathe a little."

The army said a Palestinian killed in a firing range this week had been in a clash with troops.

A spokesman said the victim died in a confrontation between dozens of Palestinians and soldiers trying to clear their sheep from "a military exercise" area.

The Palestinians threw stones and brandished knives to try to keep the soldiers away from the herds, he said. One soldier shot dead a Palestinian threatening him with a knife, the spokesman said.

In Baghdad, Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat said Friday that Israeli forces had killed a total of 75 Palestinians during the five weeks of protests in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Arafat handed reporters lists of 75 names of Palestinians he said were killed by Israeli forces since protests started in the occupied territories on Dec. 9. The lists gave details on their ages and when and where each one was killed.

According to the unofficial death toll in Israel, 39 Palestinians have been killed in the protests.

New senators take oath, elect officials and panels

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The newly-appointed Upper House of Parliament (Senate) held its first session Saturday and 28 members of the 30-seat chamber took the oath. During the mostly ceremonial session, the Senate also elected two deputy speakers and two assistant speakers and named various committees and sub-committees.

The Senate met under the chairmanship of Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi whose mandate was renewed under a Dec. 8 Royal Decree that named the new 30-member House, and each of the senators present took the oath: I swear, in the name of Almighty God, to be loyal to the King and the country, to uphold the constitution, to serve the country and to carry out all duties assigned to me.

Two senators — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, who was in Aqaba attending talks between His Majesty King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, and Mohammad Kamal, who is currently Jordan's ambassador to the U.S. — did not attend the session. They will take the oath during the first Senate session they attend.

The Dec. 8 Royal Decree retained 27 members of the Senate in the new House and named Kamal, Mohammad Rasoul Al Keilani, Jordan's ambassador to Saudi Arabia, and Faridoun Hikmat, whose last official post was that of director-general of the Tourism Investments Corpora-

tion, to replace Wasfi Al Mirza, Ali Hassan Odeh and Farid Al Saad.

According to the parliamentary statute, Senate members cannot serve as ambassadors.

During Saturday's session, the Senate named Juma Hammad as second assistant speaker and re-elected Hikmat Al Masri as first deputy speaker, and Abdul Rahman Khalifeh and Ammer Khammash as second deputy speaker and first assistant speaker respectively.

After completing the election procedures, Lawzi and Hindawi exchanged speeches pledging further cooperation between the legislative and executive branches in the service of the King and country.

The Senate's four permanent committees dealing with legal, financial, administrative and foreign affairs were also elected Saturday. The formation of these committees came in the form of endorsement of suggestions made by senators.

Mudar Badran, a former prime minister, Ahmad Al Tarawneh, a former prime minister and a

lawyer, Khalifeh, Walid Salah, Subhi Amin Amer, Hassan Kayed, a former minister of interior, Keilani, Mohammad Odeh Al Qaraan were named as the Legal Committee members.

The Financial Committee was made up of Khalifeh, Amer, Khalil Al Salem, a former minister and a renowned economist and banker, Abdul Majid Shoman, chairman of the Arab Bank board of directors, Hammad, Nayef Al Khreishe, Hail Surour and Mohammad Ali Bdeir.

The Administrative Committee was made up of Kaved, Noufan Al Saud, Hail Surour, Hammad, Khreishe, Barjas Al Hadid, and Masri.

The Foreign Affairs Committee was made up of Bahjat Al Talhouini, a former minister, Badran, Anstas Hanania, Hazem Nuseibeh, Salah, Akram Z'waiter, Field Marshal Habis Al Majali, a former commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces, Khammash and Kamal.

Two Senate sub-committees — education and social services, and occupied territories affairs — were also named Saturday. Members of the first sub-committee are: Talhouini, Salem, Z'waiter, Bdeir and Kamal. The second sub-committee comprises of Tarawneh, Hanania, Amer, Nuseibeh, Qaraan, Khraishah and Hadid.

Senators referred to the Legal Committee amendments made two laws dealing with Jordan's penal code and the Zakat (alms for the poor) fund.

Khatib urges conservation energy

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib Saturday stressed the need for energy conservation in Jordan. He said that energy costs were a heavy burden on the national economy, and that all measures must be taken to prevent energy waste.

The minister was addressing the opening session of a training seminar for directors of energy departments organised by the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources in cooperation with the European Community (EC).

Khatib outlined the programmes his ministry is currently executing in coordination with

government departments, especially those programmes for training engineers and technicians in energy planning and improving the efficiency of equipment used in power generation and supply.

In his speech at the session, EC delegate to Jordan Marcello Palmieri described projects implemented in Jordan with EC help since the mid-1970s. He said that these joint efforts had led to an improvement in energy management and conservation in the Kingdom.

Palmieri then praised the fruitful cooperation between the EC and the Ministry of Energy

and Mineral Resources.

Director of the Department of Industrial Energy at the Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources Rashad Abu Ras explained that the participants will hear lectures by energy experts from Jordan and European countries on energy management, insulation, central heating, energy cost control systems and energy consumption. Other topics to be reviewed are: conserving energy in large buildings, refrigeration systems and air conditioning.

Several senior ministry officials were present at the opening session.

King, Mubarak discuss West Bank and Gaza

(Continued from page 1)

A senior Jordanian cabinet minister was quoted as saying the importance of the Aqaba talks lay in their timing — Mubarak starts a tour of European capitals next week before a state visit to Washington.

"He and the King will be trying to consolidate the joint Arab stand adopted at the Amman summit," the minister, who asked not to be named, told Reuters.

Talking to Egyptian reporters accompanying the president, the King said efforts towards bolstering Arab solidarity had made great progress but "we are still at the beginning of the road and the responsibility falls on us to continue on the path."

He said efforts "that we exert towards Arab solidarity are with caution and vigil so that our steps do not falter in facing challenges."

The King described his recent visit to the Soviet Union as very successful and said he was very much pleased with the outcome of his talks with the Soviet leaders. He said he had sensed that the Soviet leadership "is dynamic, aware and informed, and ready to contribute to efforts for bringing about peace and security in this part of the world."

In reply to a question, the King said while the U.S. had been a traditional source for weapons for Jordan, the Kingdom had started acquiring arms from other sources such as Eastern and Western European states, the Soviet Union and China.

On the Palestinian problem and efforts to settle it, the King said there had been "increasing international interest in our cause and I can be sure that there is also great concern over the uprising in the occupied territories against Israel's occupation and its arbitrary measures."

"The uprising is indeed effective, and it is an internal Arab action against occupation" the people living in West Bank and Gaza, the King said.

On the Gulf war, the King expressed hope that the conflict would end soon, specially when "Iran feels that the Arabs are standing as one hand and one heart."

On Syrian-Iraqi relations, the King said doors were open between Damascus and Baghdad and expressed hope that dialogue would continue between the two for the benefit of their mutual benefit.

The King said he was pleased to have met Mubarak at the end of the Egyptian leader's successful visit to the Gulf. "I was informed that all the Arab leaders were keen in meeting President Mubarak," he said. "Our march is one and our goals are the same," he added.

Mubarak flew to Aqaba after a surprise visit to Baghdad where he held talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said Mubarak and the Iraqi leader discussed "Iraq's decisive capability to crush any possible Iranian aggression."

Mubarak discussed the Palestinian protests with Arafat during their meeting in Baghdad, a PLO spokesman said.

"(They) reiterated the significance of Egypt... stemming from its political and moral responsibility towards the Palestinian people," the spokesman said.

Arafat and Mubarak agreed on the "grave situation in the occupied territories" and discussed "means of supporting the Palestinians financially, morally and politically," Bassam Abu Sharif, a key Arafat aide, said.

"They agreed on the necessity to move promptly to provide international protection for the Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories," he said.

Abu Sharif said both Arafat and Mubarak agreed on the importance to convene an international conference on the Middle East, and Mubarak expressed the opinion that the time is ripe to hold such a meeting.

"President Mubarak said he will discuss the issue with leaders of the countries he is going to visit later this month."

Mubarak is expected to hold talks later this month with officials in France, Italy, West Germany, and Britain. He is scheduled for talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan in Washington Jan. 28.

Soviet message to PLO

Arafat met Friday night with the Soviet ambassador in Baghdad, Viktor Minin, who conveyed to him a message from Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev dealing with the situation in the occupied

territories, a PLO spokesman said.

The spokesman, requesting anonymity, said Gorbachev expressed support for the PLO and the Palestinians, and renewed Moscow's position on the necessity for convening an international Middle East peace conference.

Gorbachev also promised to render more support for the Palestinian people, the spokesman said.

Gorbachev's letter was in reply to Arafat, who had written to the Soviet leader about the "continued oppression of Israelis against the Palestinians," the Soviet news agency TASS said.

It gave no details of Arafat's letter, but quoted from Gorbachev's reply.

"The Soviet Union condemns the unlawful actions of Israel while it continues its campaign against the Palestinian people," Gorbachev wrote, according to TASS.

"The Soviet people and all people of good will are indignant at the violent measures used by the Israeli authorities towards Palestinians who are trying to express their rights," Gorbachev wrote.

He repeated a Soviet call for an international conference on the Middle East, with participation of all members of the U.N. Security Council and all interested parties in the region including the PLO, TASS said.

It said the PLO was "the only lawful representative of the Palestinian people."

In another development, Abu Sharif accused Israeli leaders of trying to mislead international public opinion by talking about a possible settlement in the occupied territories.

Commenting on proposals by Israeli leaders to negotiate with Palestinians who are not linked to the PLO, Abu Sharif said: "The issue is so clear, the Israeli leaders are trying to bluff international opinion by offering proposals which they well know nobody can accept because they bypass the actual truth."

"They try to hide the sun with their fingers," he said. "The PLO is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and it has expressed its readiness to participate in the international conference for peace in the Middle East on equal footing with all parties concerned and in accordance with all U.N. resolutions," he said.

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MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Responsible Editor and Director General:
MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:
RAMI G. KHOURI

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,
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Telephones: 667171-6, 670141-4, 666265-2

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Formidable obstacles

IN his interview with Britain's Independent Television News Thursday, His Majesty King Hussein accurately summed up the situation in the Middle East by naming Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and like-minded leaders in Israel as the principal obstacle to peace. The United States was pinpointed as a close second to Shamir in responsibility for the inertia in the peace process in the Middle East. Both parties, His Majesty said, have prevented the convening of the international peace conference, and, for that reason, they must be held accountable for the deterioration of the situation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip leading to the popular Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories.

King Hussein made clear that the stalemate in the peace process was not fundamentally linked with the PLO or its chairman, Yasser Arafat. The central challenge has always been the convening of the proposed international peace conference; all parties which stand in its way are the main villains, and not the PLO.

One of the highlights of King Hussein's interview was his assertion that both the Arab countries and the PLO have failed the Palestinian people living under occupation. He described this failure as responsible for the development of a new dimension in the Arab-Israeli conflict — the upsurge of a new force from within the occupied territories. The question that comes to mind is whether this nascent and growing force among the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip could become one of the main interlocutors in any negotiations between the Arab parties and Israel. It would surely be perilous if the Arab parties became more divided and competitive among themselves; still, one cannot question the validity of the proposition that the genuine representatives of this new element in the Arab-Israeli equation should have a central voice in any process intended for the resolution of the conflict.

But be that as it may, the most basic question remains: Will we have an international peace conference? The only thing beyond doubt is that Shamir and company, and the U.S., remain the principal obstacles to peace in our region, directly or indirectly responsible for the increasing violence in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Successful visit

EGYPTIAN President Hosni Mubarak has completed a tour of the Gulf countries and Iraq during which he showed a lot of wisdom and reason in tackling the situation in the Gulf region. Mubarak had intended from the beginning to make the tour one that would enhance solidarity among Arab states; and accordingly, during his trip he was careful to reiterate Egypt's firm stand with regard to the Middle East question and the Gulf war and to emphasise the need for deepening the collective Arab stand in the wake of a successful Arab summit meeting in Amman. Mubarak has clearly projected the leading nationalist role of his country and its weight in the Arab World. He showed that the restoration of Arab countries' relations with Cairo served as the first step in bolstering solidarity among Arabs for the sake of building up a national force capable of dealing with all problems confronting the Arab Nation as a whole. Mubarak who arrives Saturday in Amman is also keen on briefing King Hussein on the outcome of his successful Gulf tour. He is keen to show that Amman and Cairo are together launching a successful diplomatic campaign and moving forward with confidence, seeking to achieve peace based on justice in the Middle East and in the Gulf region. Mubarak's visit here reflects the Egyptian president's keenness on maintaining the pan-Arab spirit which prevailed during the Arab summit in Amman last November. We welcome the Egyptian president and hope that the joint Jordanian-Egyptian process will achieve success at all levels.

Al Dustour: Palestinian uprising continues

ISRAEL Friday followed up its atrocities in the occupied Arab territories by attacking worshippers at Al Aqsa Mosque, one of the holiest shrines of Islam, killing and injuring more Arab citizens. The Israeli authorities have on purpose chose the Aqsa Mosque as a new site for their new crime and for shedding the blood of worshippers there in order to deter all Arabs from pursuing their uprising against occupation. The attack on the mosque and the worshippers should not be regarded as similar to those other attacks on Arabs and Muslims throughout the occupied region over the past two months, but rather as one on a place considered sacred to all Muslims of the world. The attack on the mosque was preceded by a hostile campaign in which the Israelis had threatened to carry out more repressive measures against the Palestinians who are now rebelling against occupation. The attack on the Aqsa Mosque was another heinous crime committed by the Israeli troops against the Muslim people and their faith. It is true that Israel is getting away with its crimes and escaping punishment due to the continued support and backing of a superpower which protects Israel at the Security Council. Yet, we believe that the Zionists should not escape unpunished for their crimes against the Arab and Islamic nations and their holy shrines and their acts of sacrilege in mosques. We consider the attack on the Aqsa Mosque as one directed against the Islamic nation at large, and insistently urge all Islamic nations to take proper action not only to support the Arab people under Israel's rule, but also to deter Israel from committing similar violations which are intended to insult the feelings of the Islamic nation.

Sawt Al Shaab: Overcoming obstacles

THE Mubarak-Hussein meeting on Saturday is designed to formulate a pan-Arab stand and to enable the Arab Nation to attain a flexible policy capable of overcoming the present obstacles placed by Israel in the path of peace. The two leaders who hold identical views will be reviewing the outcome of Mubarak's tour of the Gulf region and a pan-Arab strategy that would stem Iran's aggressive nature, and enable the U.N. Security Council to implement its 598 resolution. The talks also come at a time when the Arab people of the occupied regions are continuing their uprising in the face of Israeli atrocities and struggling for freedom. Both leaders are convinced that Israel would not continue its terrorism against the Arab population if it was not supported by the United States which supplies it with the means to perpetuate its occupation and its inhuman practices. The Arab leaders who achieved agreement and consensus at their summit last November realise that that Israel cannot continue to tamper with security and peace in this region.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Is flat income tax rate feasible?

THE director general of the Income Tax Department announced another fall in the 1987 revenues from the income tax. He blamed the fall on tax exemptions and the "incentives" that were introduced by amendments to the income tax law in 1985.

Exemptions and incentives were meant to reduce tax revenue during the first and second years of their application, but now three years after their introduction we witness a further decline in the tax proceeds, especially in the contribution of shareholding companies.

Tax incentives cost the Treasury some JD 10 million a year. However it is still not clear whether this sacrifice on behalf of the Treasury has actually yielded the intended results, namely more profitability for the companies, or has only helped managers to relax their competitive drive.

It is high time to evaluate each one of these incentives. Some incentives did have a positive impact, but others failed to influence the behaviour of companies in the desired direction.

The worst incentive, from the cost/benefit point of view, was the exemption of banks and financial companies from tax on gross interest and profits derived from bonds, treasury bills, offshore deposits, and external branches without excluding the costs of producing the exempted income.

The result of this incentive was that the banking system shifted its

attention from financing industrial, agricultural and commercial projects owned and run by the private sector to the financing of the budget deficit and public sector corporations guaranteed by the government, thus crowding out the private sector.

The second such incentive was the partial exemption granted on the profits of exports. This simply did not work. Exports did not grow since 1984. Firms which could make money through exports did not need an incentive to maximise their exports. Firms that were unable to make money due to their high cost could not benefit from the exemption. In both cases the exemption did not change anything except the tax proceeds. This could not continue to be classified as an incentive.

The proceeds of the income tax in 1987 did not exceed JD 45 million, less than 4.5 per cent of the central government budget or 9 per cent of domestic revenue, or 2.5 per cent of gross national product. Income tax, it seems, is no more that sensitive and untouchable source of revenue for the government.

A major concern at this time is to attract more productive investments, in order to create growth and jobs. Therefore, the income tax file may have to be opened for reconsideration since the income tax has by itself become a negative incentive for investments. Some measure could be taken to improve the investment

environment. Perhaps the income tax formula could be simplified and flat rates used in a way to eliminate the negative impact of the tax and the reasons behind tax evading and avoiding.

We can do away with all exemptions, deductions and exemptions. All sorts of income, irrespective of source, can be subjected to tax, because income tax is the other side of good citizenship.

As for the brackets, we can levy 5 per cent flat on all income of individuals who earn JD 500 a month or less, and 10 per cent on higher incomes. As far as companies are concerned, we can levy 10 per cent only if the net profits did not exceed the prevailing rate of interest and 10 per cent if the profits were higher. Interest earned on deposits, bonds etc., can pay 5 per cent across the board.

In this manner tax avoidance, legitimate or otherwise, should disappear. The accounting for tax would be extremely simple and straight forward, and the proceeds would even be higher. More important, the form of shareholding company will again become feasible and attractive. Companies currently are overtaxed as if they represent an undesirable form of business organisation.

Projections for the five years development plan indicate that the return on invested capital is rather low. Investment may not be financially feasible if investors were subjected to 40 to 50 per cent tax on their gross profits. Such high rates inhibit investments and do not generate substantial tax proceeds.

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

One Israeli's anguish over deportation of Palestinian friend

By Marcus Eliason
 The Associated Press

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM — To most Israelis, the four Palestinians expelled from the West Bank for fomenting anti-Israeli protests are little more than a string of names, ages and prison records.

But not to Dalia Landau. One of the deportees, Bashir Al Kheiri, is her friend, and their friendship illuminates the anguish many Israelis feel about their Palestinian neighbours.

It seems an unlikely relationship. The 40-year-old Israeli woman is described by friends as extremely private and not given to public gestures. The Palestinian is an avowed militant who has spent 15 years in prison as a convicted "terrorist."

This week, while in a hospital

waiting to give birth to her first child, Mrs. Landau heard to her dismay that Al Kheiri was being deported. She wrote him a letter, then decided to publish it.

Her husband Yehzekel typed her longhand draft and took it to The Jerusalem Post, which published it Thursday across nearly half its back page (the letter appears in full below).

As one editor remarked, "It was one of the most moving things I ever read."

The story of this friendship is filled with poignant Middle Eastern imagery — a stone house, a lemon tree, an old man's tears, a young man's anger and a pregnant woman's fears for the world that awaits her child.

"We got to know each other 20 years ago under unusual and unexpected circumstances," the letter begins. "Ever since, we have

become part of each other's lives."

They first met after the 1967 Mideast war when Al Kheiri showed up at the house where she and her family lived. The house, in the central Palestinian city of Ramle, was where Al Kheiri was born. The Al Kheiris had fled when Israel took Ramle in 1948. Now it was occupied by Dalia Landau and her family, immigrants from Bulgaria.

Al Kheiri's visit "was my first encounter with Palestinians," wrote Mrs. Landau. She then visited his family in the West Bank city of Ramallah. They disagreed profoundly on politics. She believed in a Jewish state. He believed Zionism was a crime. But they became good friends.

One day Al Kheiri's father, aged and blind, came to visit the

house in Ramle.

"He touched the rugged stones of the house. He then asked if the lemon tree was still in the backyard. He was led to the abundant tree, which he had planted many years before. He caressed it and stood silent. Tears were rolling down his face."

Mrs. Landau's father gave him a lemon as a memento. Years later the old man's wife told Mrs. Landau that on restless nights her husband would place the room clenching the shriveled lemon.

In her hospital bed she wrote: "Ever since I met you, the feeling has been growing in me that home was not just my home. The lemon tree which yielded so much fruit and gave us so much delight lived in other people's hearts

too."

Her friendship compelled her to re-examine her strongest beliefs. She had always believed the Arabs fled Ramle because they were cowards. Now she discovered they had been expelled by force. "My love for my country was losing its innocence," she wrote.

In 1970, Al Kheiri went to jail. Mrs. Landau married and moved to Jerusalem. The friendship survived. "I felt that you and I, your family and mine, were bound by a strange destiny, that the house with which our childhood memories were connected had forced us to face each other."

She wrote unforgettingly about his "terrorist" actions, but accepted that he would regard

Israeli bombing raids on Palestinian targets as terrorism too. She felt that his militancy alienated Israelis like herself who believe in Palestinian national rights, but wrote that his deportation was wrong, because it made him a refugee for a second time and deprived his children of a father, which would make them hate Israelis even more.

"Our childhood memories, yours and mine, are intertwined in a tragic way. If we cannot find means to transform that tragedy into a shared blessing, our clinging to the past will destroy our future."

The letter concluded: *Allah Ma'ak — May God be with you.* Dalia.

A letter to a friend

From Dalia Landau

DEAR Bashir,

We got to know each other 20 years ago under unusual and unexpected circumstances. Ever since, we have become part of each other's lives. Now I hear that you are about to be deported. Since you are in detention at present, and this may be my last chance to communicate with you, I have chosen to write this open letter. First I want to retell our story.

After the six day war, you came with two other people to see the house in Ramle where you were born. This was my first encounter with Palestinians. My family and I had been living in this house since 1948, just after your family was forced to leave — you were a child of six then, and I was a year old. We had come to the new state of Israel together with 50,000 other Bulgarian Jews, and your house was considered "abandoned property."

Following your first visit in 1967, I accepted your invitation to visit you in Ramallah, where I found myself surrounded by hospitality. We talked for hours and established a warm personal connection. However, it became clear that our political views were very far apart. Each of us saw through the lens created by the suffering of his own people.

But some change in perspective was beginning to take place in me. One unforgettable day, your father came to our house in Ramle, accompanied by your brother. Your father was then old and blind. He touched the rugged stones of the house. He then asked if the lemon tree was still in the backyard. He was led to the abundant tree, which he had planted many years before. He caressed it and stood silent. Tears were rolling down his face.

Many years later, after the death of your father, your mother told me that, whenever he felt troubled at night and could not sleep, he would place up and down your rented apartment in Ramallah, holding a shriveled lemon in his hand. It was the same lemon my father had given him on that visit.

Ever since I met you, the feeling has been growing in me that home was not just my home. The lemon tree which yielded so much fruit and gave us so much delight lived in other people's hearts, too. The spacious house with its high ceilings, big windows, and large grounds was no longer just an "Arab house," a desirable form of architecture. It had faces behind it now. The walls evoked other people's memories and tears.

It was very painful for me, as a young woman 20 years ago, to wake up to a few then-well-hidden facts. For example, we were all led to believe that the Arab population of Ramle and Lod had run away before the advancing Israeli army in 1948 leaving everything behind in a hushed and cowardly escape. This belief reassured us. It was meant to prevent guilt and remorse. But after 1967, I met not only you, but also an Israeli Jew who had personally participated in the expulsion from Ramle and Lod. He told me the

story as he had experienced it, and as Yitzhak Rabin later confirmed in his memoirs.

My love for my country was losing its innocence. It was taking on new dimensions.

While I was learning to live with these painful facts, you were imprisoned. You were charged with planting a bomb that killed several civilians. My heart aches for those murdered even now. For your crime, you sat in prison for fifteen years. Passing the Ramle prison on my way to work, I often wondered if you were there. I never had the courage to ask. It was too painful.

After my marriage and the death of my parents, I inherited the house in Ramle. I shared our story with my husband, and he and I both felt that we wanted to dedicate that house — to some healing purpose. We wished to do this in conjunction with you, but we did not know whether this was at all possible. Following your release from prison, we sought you out and met you. I felt that you and I, your family and mine, were bound by a strange destiny, that the house with which our childhood memories were connected had forced us to face each other. However, our conversations revealed that, despite the passage of time, your basic position had not changed — and this makes it impossible to find common ground. Perhaps some day, if we are both willing to make sacrifices, some kind of mutual forgiveness may yet emerge.

If you could dissociate yourself from your past terrorist actions, your commitment to your own people would gain true moral force in my eyes. I well understood that "terror" is a term relative to a subjective point of view. Some of Israel's political leaders were terrorists in the past and have never repented. I know that what we consider terror from your side, your people considers their heroic armed struggle with the means at their disposal. What we consider our right to self-defence, when we bomb Palestinian targets from the air and consider mass terror from the air with advanced technology. Each side has an ingenuity for justifying its own position. How long shall we perpetuate this vicious circle?

The first step out of this deadlock is to free ourselves from self-justifying moral relativism. We are taught that the essence of our Jewish tradition can be encapsulated in the following teaching: "What is hateful to you, do not do unto others." Unless both Israelis and Palestinians can embrace this basic human principle, we will not have a solid foundation for co-existence. That foundation entails the right to self-determination for both peoples.

You, Bashir, are a Habash supporter, rejecting the self-determination of my people in this land. Most Israelis feel that the Palestinians, as well as the Arab world, are not just an expression of resistance to the occupation, but is a much deeper refusal to accept a Jewish state in even part of Palestine. As long as we experience this total rejection, you and

your people will not achieve your own independence. For you will alienate all those Israelis who, like myself, are prepared to support the Palestinian struggle for self-determination. People like yourself, Bashir, bear a great responsibility for triggering our anxieties, which are well justified, given the PFLP's determination to replace Israel with a "secular democratic state" and to use terror to achieve this aim.

Regardless of what you may have done recently to undermine the military government, the military government is a violation of human rights and is, therefore, wrong. It also happens to be counter-productive for Israel. Not only do the expulsions create greater bitterness and extremism among the Palestinians, thereby escalating the violent confrontations, but the deportees will have greater freedom to plan actions against Israel from abroad. You, Bashir, have already experienced one expulsion from Ramle as a child. Now you are about to experience another from Ramallah forty years later. You will thus become a refugee twice. You may be separated from your wife and your two small children, Ahmed and Hanin, and from your elderly mother and the rest of your family. How can your children avoid hating those who will have deprived them of their father? Will the legacy of pain grow and harden with bitterness as it passes down the generations?

It is a natural reaction to hate those who have made us suffer. It is also a natural reaction to inflict pain because one has suffered pain, and to justify it ideologically. In this small land, both our peoples are stuck in a fateful embrace. I believe that our finding each other here is potentially for the greater unfolding of life. In order to fulfil this potential, we all need to become more fully human, which, to me, means activating our capacity to understand the suffering of others through our own, and to transform pain into healing.

It seems to me, Bashir, that you will now have a new opportunity to assume a leadership role. By its intention to deport you, Israel is actually empowering you. I appeal to you to demonstrate the kind of leadership that uses nonviolent means of struggle for your rights, a leadership based on education for the recognition of your enemy and his relative justice.

I appeal to both Palestinians and Israelis to understand that the use of force will not resolve this conflict on its fundamental level. This is the kind of war that no one can win, and either both peoples will achieve liberation or neither will.

Our childhood memories, yours and mine, are intertwined in a tragic way. If we cannot find means to transform that tragedy into a shared blessing, our clinging to the past will destroy our future. We will then rob another generation of a joy-filled childhood and turn them into martyrs for an unholy cause. I pray that, with your cooperation and God's help, our children will delight in the beauty and the bounties of this holy land.

Allah Ma'ak — May God be with you,

After Chiangdynasty, Taiwan faces new challenges

By Dan Biers
 The Associated Press

TAIPEI, Taiwan — Nationalist Taiwan is without a charismatic leader from Chiang Kai-Shek's family for the first time, a sobering prospect as the nation faces a restive population and a long-standing rivalry with China.

President Chiang Ching-kuo, 77-year-old son of the late Nationalist Chinese World War II leader, died of a heart attack Wednesday, ending six decades of rule by the family.

The Chiang-led Nationalist Party first ruled mainland China but was forced to escape to Taiwan with 2 million followers after losing a civil war to the Communists in 1949.

The Nationalists continued to maintain they were the rulers of all China, not just the island they controlled, and they limited native Taiwanese participation in government. Martial law was imposed and opposition political parties were banned.

But the native Taiwanese, who make up 85 per cent of the island's 19.5 million population, began to have greater political aspirations as they prospered under successful export-oriented economic policies.

Some even proposed that the island declare itself independent

of China to bring about a native Taiwanese government, and took to the streets to press their views.

It was those pressures that Chiang Ching-kuo constantly battled during a presidency that began in 1978, three years after his father died.

During his final years, the younger Chiang sought to solidify public support for his Nationalist Party by introducing a degree of democracy to Taiwan and by keeping the emotional ties to China strong.

In 1986, he allowed the first opposition party to form, although it could only run for a small number of legislative seats. He then scrapped martial law, which paved the way for more parties to form and ended a ban on demonstrations.

In the fall of 1987, Chiang bowed to public pressure and decided to allow Taiwan residents to travel to China to visit relatives left behind in the civil war. Tens of thousands already have registered for such trips.

Chiang pushed through the reforms even though some aging Nationalists reportedly opposed them. Events after his death will show whether peaceful change can continue or if his efforts came too late.

More important is how new president Lee Teng-hui, a native

Taiwanese, fares as he tries to steer a course between old-guard Nationalists suspicious of political reform and Taiwanese who want more say.

Without Chiang to force through liberalisation measures, the pace of change may slow down. Taiwan is likely to move toward a more consultative leadership as Lee will lack the power and prestige of his predecessor.

An early sign of whether the party's authoritarian grip will continue to loosen will be what proposals, if any, are made to change the existing political system that ensures the majority of lawmakers and electoral college members are Nationalists from the mainland.

The independence movement may hesitate to immediately increase pressure for concessions because that could give hardline Nationalists a reason to crack down. The opposition Democratic Party already has pledged to work with Lee and temporarily suspended all demonstrations.

Chiang apparently took steps to ensure his successor would not be toppled by a coup. Observers said Chiang used his brother, Chiang Wego, who is head of the national security council, to help Lee win some support from the armed forces.

Journalist's Note

Solar energy — useable in developing countries

By Wilhelm Lange

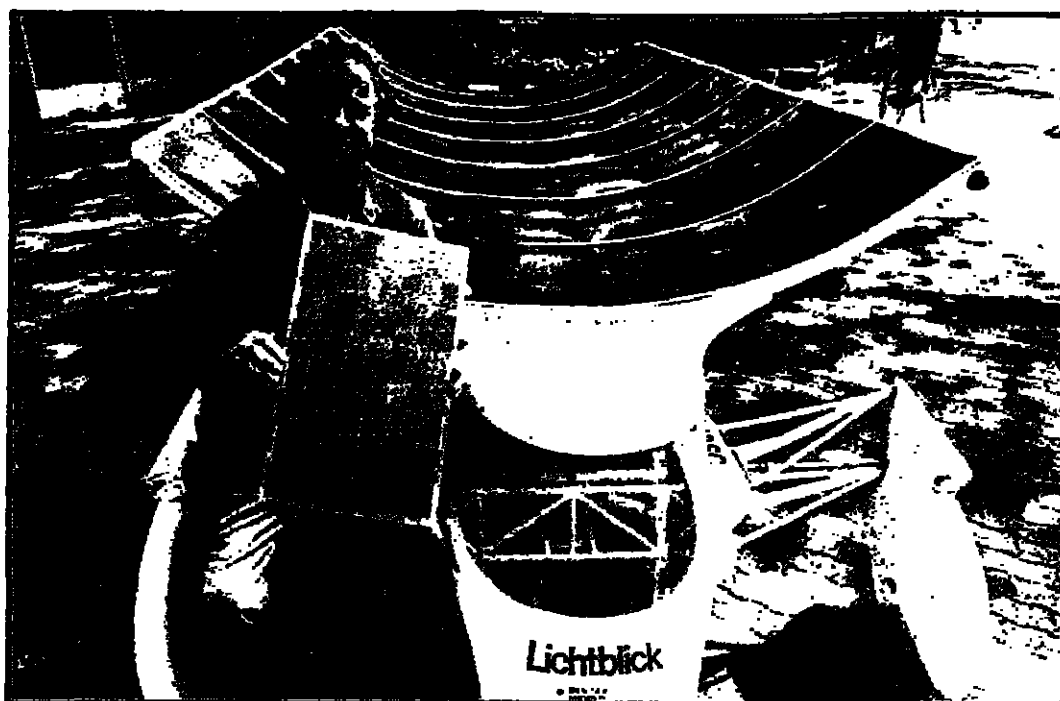
HAMBURG (INP) — "Solar energy is the energy of the future, not just an alternative," was the message at the recent World Solar Energy Conference. Conference chairman Horst Horster told delegates: "The energy beamed to the earth by the sun is about 3,000 times more than we consume. Enough energy reaches the earth's surface from the sun in two-and-a-half hours to meet our entire world energy needs."

He went on: "We expect that solar energy will soon achieve great economic importance... not only in Third World countries which lack their own primary energy resources such as coal, gas and oil, but in the industrialised countries, too. And these latter countries have stocks of inexpensive fossil energy sources which will last for decades as well as nuclear energy." Horster added that solar energy was environmentally compatible, having none of the disadvantages occur-

ring in the combustion of coal, oil and gas.

Experts say solar hydrogen technology is the best way of exploiting solar energy. The Bonn Research Ministry is channeling DM 100 million per year into the development of this branch of technology. Wherever the sun shines long and hard, its energy will be converted directly into electricity with the help of solar cells (photo-voltaic). Using an electrolysis process, this power splits water into hydrogen and oxygen. The hydrogen can be fed by pipeline or transported in tankers to wherever needed, where it is then converted back into electricity or heat by means of combustion cells.

The new technology is well advised in German industry. Already, solar cells are driving water pumps in Arab countries, firing lighthouses, and feeding emergency batteries in outlying regions. The biggest project in this sector in the Federal Republic of Germany is a 300 kilowatt solar plant on the North Sea



German Rolf Diech will be driving his "Lichtblick II" in "solarmobile" races in 1988. A successful constructor of solar-powered cars, he built this one himself.

island of Pellworm.

German and Saudi Arabian scientists are working together in testing a solar-hydrogen system in a DM 40-million venture in Saudi Arabia. This, too, receives financial backing from the Federal German Research Ministry in Bonn. Research Minister Heinz Riesenhuber commented: "It's fascinating to think that solar energy captured in the Sahara

Desert can be stored in hydrogen then used in Europe as electricity, heat or motor-power."

But there's one major drawback: The solar-hydrogen scheme is still too costly. Even with a good portion of optimism, it has to be admitted that the costs of obtaining electricity in this way are several times greater than electric energy obtained from either conventional or atomic

power stations. However, this does not have to be for always. Twenty years ago, the price of a one-Watt solar panel for converting sunlight into power was between DM 150 and DM 250, making it feasible only for use in space travel or satellite technology. Today, the same item costs between DM 15 and DM 20 — already 10 times cheaper.

Debtor nations short of cash turn increasingly to barter

By Thalia Griffiths
Reuters

LONDON — Someone, traders' folklore says, once bartered the skeleton of a Mongolian dinosaur for West German trucks.

The Saudis swapped oil for Tornado warplanes. Honduras exchanges bananas for Soviet fertiliser.

Barter, the world's oldest form of trade, is enjoying a new lease of life in the 1980s. And one reason, economists say, is that many nations are strapped for hard currency.

"The volume of countertrade has a lot to do with the fact that everyone is owing money. They don't have the foreign exchange needed for cash deals," said Jonathan Bell, research manager for Batis Ltd, a London firm providing trade information and research.

Modern countertrade is a complex business, involving not just bartering goods for goods the way early civilisations did before people invented money, but various other kinds of reciprocal trade agreement, too.

There is "buyback," for instance, where a firm gives a country technology and agrees to be paid in goods it produces.

In "counterpurchase," the seller buys something from the buyer in exchange. "Offset" involves an exporter agreeing to incorporate in his final product some part or parts produced by the importing country.

The extent of countertrade, long favoured by Communist countries, is hard to measure. Depending who you ask, it could account for anything from eight to 25 per cent of world trade.

The head of countertrade at a large British company said it made up a tiny proportion of its total exports but between 50 and 100 per cent of sales to problem areas.

"I think sellers in the 1990s are going to find a rapidly shrinking

area to export into where hard currency is available as payment," he said.

The debt crisis mean demand for countertrade was increasing as Communist and Third World exporters faced the problem of how else they could fund imports.

"My view is that it is not going to get any better," the executive said.

"I believe that in the 1990s we shall all be searching for alternative ways to do business, not necessarily through countertrade, but through more creative ways of selling — buyers helping sellers find outlets for their goods, more goodwill."

Traders often use barter to get round quota agreements, market sources said.

They said Uganda produces more than its annual International Coffee Organisation (ICO) export quota of 142,800 tonnes and barter the surplus with non-ICO countries in the Communist bloc and Third World.

Libya is supplying Uganda with \$6 million worth of oil in exchange for 3,000 tonnes of coffee.

Members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) use barter to evade cartel fixed pricing agreements.

Oil is a relatively serviceable means of exchange as the size, sophistication and efficiency of the world market means it can be converted into cash fairly easily.

Saudi Arabia bartered 400,000 barrels per day of crude oil to Shell and British Petroleum to pay for Tornado and other warplanes worth \$8 billion from Britain in June.

OPEC does not approve of barter, but many of its member countries do it, Jonathan Bell at London's Batis Ltd. said.

He also said that the International Monetary Fund (IMF) "are on a downer on any kind of countertrade, but they will give their tacit approval to offset deals. They tend to ask why

goods can't be sold for cash which could then be used to pay off debts to them or other creditors."

He said there had been a significant rise in the development of offsets from Third World countries for arms.

"More and more Third World countries want to develop their manufacturing capabilities or hi-tech industries and they can do this by imposing obligations on their trade partners."

Countries like Egypt and Brazil have developed significant arms industries through technology transfers and the use of offset obligations.

This is how Japan developed its industries after World War II, but now U.S. manufacturers will seek reverse offset from Japan.

If the United States sells an aircraft to the Japanese air force, it knows Japan will take it apart and make it more advanced, so the Americans seek deals in which the Japanese agree to share the new technology with them.

"The arms companies know trade is going this way and in their competitive business they have to go along with it," Bell said.

Countertrade between the non-aligned countries gives them economic independence from the industrial world.

Brazil and India are now quite large exporters of manufactured goods and can offer goods to trade, not just raw materials, and China offers more favourable trading policies to the less developed countries.

Traders believe a recession would mean yet more countertrade as liquidity is squeezed even further.

In a recession importers buy less, but goods are still being produced and are available for exchange.

In part a recession reflects a lack of ready cash and countertrade is one way of overcoming this problem, they said.

A bond to boost chips' versatility

A revolutionary type of silicon structure for making microchips is entering the market and fulfilling an electronics designer's dreams. Mary Wilkinson explains that the product, called bicmos, combines the best of two technologies to produce fast, densely packed chips with low power consumption.

LONDON — In the acronym-ridden world of microelectronics a new name — bicmos — is emerging rapidly from the research laboratories and into products.

A type of silicon structure for making microchips, it is being taken seriously by most of the world's major chip manufacturers. Giants such as Hitachi, Motorola and Fujitsu have all recently launched their first bicmos products and early last month Britain's first commercial bicmos plant was opened in Sidcup, Kent, by the American owned company, LSI Logic.

LSI's new plant will offer tailor-made bicmos chips to customers in Europe, the U.S. and Far East — a total world market that Dataquest, the market research company, believes will grow from almost nothing to \$500 million by 1992.

Bicmos is causing such interest because it manages to combine the best characteristics of the two widely-used silicon technologies — bipolar and CMOS (complementary metal oxide semiconductor) — to produce the electronic designer's dream of a fast, densely packed microchip with low power consumption. But its most attractive feature is that it allows analogue and digital functions, which would normally require separate chips, to be put together neatly and cheaply on a single piece of silicon.

Circuits made up of bipolar transistors — the oldest form of silicon technology — are ideal for handling analogue signals such as the undulations of human speech for telephone transmissions or for feeding a continuously changing current to control the speed of the likes of washing machine motors.

As well as their superior performance, bipolar circuits are fast and can push out a lot of current. On the negative side, they are power thirsty and bulky compared with the low power, diminutive CMOS circuits which dominate the microchip industry for digital tasks.

By combining both types of technology on one chip, a system designer can get rid of the several high power bipolar chips that normally link the CMOS computing part of an electronic system to the outside world.

This will cut the cost of and radically reduce the size of the system "box", says Robert Blair, president of LSI Logic U.K. It will also make it more difficult for competitors to unravel a company's circuit designs.

The bicmos process LSI is using was designed by STC, the telecommunications company which is a part owner in the Sidcup plant. But STC pulled out of ambitious plans to enter the commodity chip market two years ago, just as the £20 million (\$36 million) factory was reaching completion, and instead entered into a joint venture with LSI.

"A major semiconductor facility like this needs a company that is concentrating in that field, has

market access and a single-minded determination to succeed," says Arthur Walsh, chief executive of STC. "It is not possible for such a venture to flourish as an adjunct of a systems company," he adds.

Instead, STC has an 18 per cent stake in the bicmos venture, immediate access to new developments and gets a rapid response when it wants its own bicmos designs manufactured.

STC Semiconductor retains the rights to the process and has a small bicmos facility, also in Sidcup, where it can do its own prototype work and offer specialised, low-volume production runs for outside customers.

The company has already designed and manufactured a single-chip telephone and a single-chip radio pager using bicmos technology.

It is also likely to use a bicmos chip in a small portable telephone which it is developing for British Telecom. Bipolar, with its ability to handle high frequencies, can be combined with CMOS logic to produce a chip capable of receiving and decoding a digital radio signal. Having one instead of two chips, therefore, means the device can be made smaller, cheaper, easier to assemble and more reliable.

Nigel Horne, technical director of STC and a director of LSI Logic U.K., believes bicmos will find applications throughout STC and its computing subsidiary ICL.

"It will depend on the rate at which we can re-educate designers to realise they can put analogue on a digital chip," he says.

"The partitioning of the two is artificial," Plessey, another British tele-

communications company, is also very interested in the potential of bicmos to improve its products. The company has an active bicmos research programme but has yet to decide when it will enter the market.

LSI Logic does not, however, have the custom-built bicmos chip market to itself. According to Dataquest, there are six other suppliers and more than 15 more companies developing bicmos products. The three most significant companies with bicmos products already on the market are Hitachi and NEC of Japan and Motorola of the U.S.

But all these companies are taking a different approach from LSI and STC on the development of the technology. Instead of offering the ability to mix analogue and digital signals on one chip, companies like Hitachi are using the advantages of bicmos to produce a fast digital chip without the high-power consumption of bipolar devices but with the power to drive a large load without slowing.

Hitachi has used a bicmos chip in its new S-820 supercomputer to speed memory management and it is developing a bicmos microprocessor.

LSI Logic eventually intends to go the same way but will first concentrate on trying to get its customers familiar with the analogue/digital aspects.

The biggest disadvantage of bicmos is that it requires a more complicated manufacturing process than CMOS which can increase costs by 15 to 30 per cent.

However, Dataquest expects the price of bicmos chips to fall as companies go into volume production, and believes the technology will capture market share from both the high-speed bipolar and CMOS custom markets, finding applications in everything from personal computers to robotics — Financial Times news feature.



Kimi Ko Gelman displays some of her assets in Rags to Riches, Thursday at 9:10.

JTV Channel 2 Preview

Sun. — Jan. 17, 1988 11:10 Three's Company

8:30 Farrington of The F.O. Wed. — Jan. 20, 1988

9:10 Doc. Omnibus

Hemingway

In 1940 Hemingway divorced Pauline and married his third wife (Martha). He participated in the Spanish civil war. Excerpts from his book, For Whom the Bells Toll describe that war. He also participated in the American invasion of Normandy during the second world war in 1944.

10:20 Secret Army

Mon. — Jan. 18, 1988

8:30 Are You Being Served

The management resolves to sell sports articles in the shop, but employees disagree. A handsome young man is appointed to take up such work. Accidentally, the sales manager hits an old female employee with a golf blow on the head. She loses her memory for sometime but later regains it.

9:10 Moonlighting

10:20 Feature Film

My Blue Heaven

Starring: Betty Grable, Dan Dailey

Tue. — Jan. 19, 1988

8:30 Apartheid

Programme 3: Division — the years 1965-77
This programme looks at a key policy of apartheid — the creation of Bantustans (tribal homelands). Also examined is the evolution of a new philosophy among black university students — black consciousness. This philosophy, which rejected the acquiescence in white rule of previous generations of blacks, generated a new, aggressive spirit which first manifested itself in schools.

9:30 Executive Stress

Anthea Duxbury finds it somewhat "suspect" that the eligible Donald Fairchild shows no interest in her and Caroline finds it amusing that people may get the wrong idea about him. What neither of them realises is that Edgar Frankland has got the wrong idea about them.

10:20 The Equalizer

8:30 Charles in Charge

9:00 Well Being

Pain, pain go away

A new and unique course of therapy for people suffering from chronic pains is being run at a Liverpool hospital — one of the world's leading centres for pain research. Aimed at patients who have tried every kind of drug and surgical treatment without success, the course — which includes several unorthodox therapies — teaches them how to control their pain by mental and physical techniques they can practise on themselves.

9:35 Alfred Hitchcock Presents...

10:20 Floodtide

Thu. — Jan. 21, 1988

8:25 Apartheid

Programme 4 — Adapt or die — the year 1977-86

In 1978 P.W. Botha became South Africa's prime minister. He promised changes in the country's system of government and gave parliamentary representation to the small coloured (mixed race) and Indian minorities; but not a single seat to the black majority. Again violence exploded at Sharpeville — this time it was blacks killing blacks.

9:10 Rags to Riches

10:20 Feature Film

Vertigo

Starring: James Stewart, Kim Novak
Alfred Hitchcock thriller
A detective with a fear of heights is drawn into a complex plot in which a girl he loves apparently falls to her death, then he meets her double.

Fri. — Jan. 22, 1988

8:30 Growing Pains

9:10 Magnum

10:20 Falcon Crest

11:10 Dr. At Large

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Aldridge on target as Liverpool stretches unbeaten sequence

LONDON (Agencies) — John Aldridge, the man Liverpool signed to replace Ian Rush, scored his 20th goal of the season in a 2-0 win against Arsenal Saturday as the English First Division leaders stretched their unbeaten run to 23 games.

And while Rush continues to struggle in Italy, Aldridge, who cost £850,000 (\$1.5 million) from Oxford, maintained his excellent scoring record with a 45th minute goal seen by a television audience of 250 million in 55 countries.

Although Aldridge received the acclaim of the crowd, Steve McMahon — the best uncapped player in England — was the architect behind the move when he controlled an awkward ball on the right touchline and evaded a sliding tackle in one motion.

McMahon then released England forward Peter Beardsley with a perfectly-weighted chipped pass and although Arsenal goalkeeper John Lukic saved his stinging drive, Aldridge was handily placed to turn the ball into the net.

Beardsley later put his name on the scoreline with a superb solo goal on the hour when he picked up a loose ball 10 metres outside the Arsenal penalty area, twisted past two scything tackles and flicked an audacious chip over Lukic's head.

The result lifted Liverpool's points haul to 59, 15 more than second-placed Nottingham Forest and, with 19 games remaining, the odds are shortening on the champions-elect completing the 42-match programme unbeaten.

Malcolm Allen lifted Watford off the foot of the table and gave new manager Steve Harrison, who took over from Dave Bassett on Tuesday, a dream start. Displaying commitment and confidence, Watford's first league win since Nov. 28 was sealed when Allen scored from the penalty spot 16 minutes from time. Earlier, Worrell Sterling gave Watford a 49th-minute lead, cancelled out by Eric Young's header 11 minutes later.

Tottenham 2, Coventry 2 (1-0)

Coventry twice came from behind to snatch a draw in a repeat of last season's F.A. Cup final. Two Clive Allen goals after 36 and 75 minutes were not enough

to give Tottenham revenge for its Wembley defeat. Cyrille Regis cancelled out Allen's first strike after 53 minutes and Dave Bennett equalised again seven minutes from time.

Manchester United 0, Southampton 2 (1-0)

A totally out of touch United suffered its first home defeat of the season as Southampton won for the first time at Old Trafford in 19 years. Colin Clarke was the visitors' hero, the tall center-forward striking both goals after seven and 74 minutes. Before Clarke sewed up the points, United had come desperately close to equalising, hitting the upright twice.

Norwich 0, Everton 3 (0-1)

Norwich's improved league form came to an abrupt halt against the defending league champions. Graeme Sharp gave Everton a 21st-minute lead and Norwich missed several chances to equalise in its best spell of the game just before halftime. Everton rode its luck and struck twice more in the last three minutes through Sharp again, and Adrian Heath.

Cuba says no to Olympics

MEXICO CITY (AP) — President Fidel Castro said Cuba will not participate in the 1988 Olympics in Seoul unless North Korea is a co-host and there is a guarantee of no violence, the Cuban news agency Prensa Latina has said.

Castro sent a letter to Juan Antonio Samaranch, president of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) advising him of the decision, the agency said.

Manuel Gonzalez Guerra, president of the Cuban Olympic Committee, read the letter in Havana, Prensa Latina said in a dispatch monitored in Mexico City.

Castro said he deeply regretted the decision but added, "our nation and our athletes, who are guided by deep ethical standards

and a great sense of honour, will not be discouraged and will continue preparing for the Olympics in Barcelona in 1992, if (they do not) commit the senseless act of sanctioning us for maintaining honest conduct," Prensa Latina said.

Cuba would be willing to reconsider its decision if North Korea is a co-host and Cuba receives guarantees that the Olympics will be free of violence, the dispatch said.

"For Cuba, the moral principles of the peoples are more important than the emotions of the Olympic Games and the gold medals that could be obtained," the dispatch quoted the letter as saying.

It added that there is no intention of mixing Korean political

problems with sports, but said "even our grade school children understand that with bullets, tear gas and massive repression of the people there would not be the most healthy and honourable conditions for Olympic Games."

The letter apparently referred to measures used to put down demonstrations by anti-government activists in South Korea. Large protests last summer prompted the authoritarian government to agree to democratic reforms including direct elections.

The deadline for applications for the Olympic Games is Sunday. North Korea has said it will boycott the games unless it is a co-host with the South. South Korea has rejected the demand.

Edberg, Wilander advance in Melbourne

MELBOURNE (Agencies) — Holder Stefan Edberg and Mats Wilander led four Swedish seeds into the last 16 of the singles at the Australian Open tennis championships Saturday.

Edberg, a former world junior champion, set up a clash with current world junior number one Jason Stoltenberg of Australia when he overcame American Dan Goldie in a tough 6-4, 7-5, 2-6, 6-3 third round centre court showdown.

Second-seeded Edberg was given his biggest scare so far when he lost six straight games to drop the third set.

"I don't know what happened," said Edberg. "My game went right down and I didn't feel as if I was in the match for a while."

Edberg, winner of the last two Australian Opens, cruised through the first two sets but then lost the rhythm on his serve as Goldie turned up the heat.

It was not until the eighth game of the fourth set, when he broke

after a five-deuce game, that Edberg regained control.

Ranked 330 in the world, Stoltenberg beat American Joey Rive 6-2, 6-2, 6-2 and immediately announced he was looking forward to playing Edberg.

"It will be a great experience," he said. "I have never played anyone ranked that high before and to get this far in a Grand Slam tournament is a bonus in itself."

"I will go out against Stefan and just play my own game. There is no reason to change it."

Third-seeded Wilander had a much easier task than Edberg, beating compatriot Magnus Gustafsson, winning 6-1, 6-4, 6-1.

Anders Jarryd, the tournament's sixth seed, and 13th-seeded Catarina Lindqvist completed the quartet of Swedish winners.

Jarryd, attempting to fight his way back into the top 10 after overcoming a series of leg injuries, beat little known American Paul Chamberlin 7-5, 6-1.

6-2 and Lindqvist was far too strong for American Robin White, grinding out a 6-1, 6-4 win.

World number one Steffi Graf and defending women's champion Hana Mandlikova also completed expected victories with West German unknown Carle-Uwe Steeb notching the only surprise.

Steeb, ranked 51 in the world, upset eighth-seeded Slobodan Zivojinovic 6-4, 7-5, 2-6, 1-6, 6-3 despite the Yugoslav's 18 aces.

Graf had too many guns for American Cammy MacGregor, winning 6-1, 6-2 in a methodical display that did not reach the heights of her second round annihilation of Australian Janine Thompson.

Mandlikova, who beat Martina Navratilova in last year's final at Kooyong, said she was lifting the level of her game with each match after beating France's Catherine Tanvier 6-4, 6-3.

Walliser wins downhill race

ZINAL, Switzerland (AP) — Defending champion Maria Walliser came from behind to edge Michelle Fignini in a 1-2-3 Swiss sweep of a women's World Cup downhill race Saturday.

The 24-year-old Walliser, who caught the flu during the holiday break, averaged 91.2 kph (56.7 mph) over the 2,870-metre course to finish 7-100ths of a second ahead of Fignini, the 21-year-old gold medalist at the Olympics in Sarajevo.

The turning point came on the windup section of the course, featuring a 690-metre vertical drop. After about two-thirds of the race, Fignini was still ahead by almost a second.

Brigitte Oertli was third. Walliser's win marked the fifth

Swiss downhill victory in as many races this season and confirmed the team's favoured status in next month's Winter Games at Calgary.

Fignini, who has won three downhill titles this season against Walliser's two, remained on top of the overall standings with 171 points. Walliser trailed her with 127 points in second place.

"Conditions were excellent, under a bright sun, making the course much faster than during Thursday's downhill. Fignini won the Thursday event."

Walliser's winning time of 1:52.17 compared with Fignini's 1:55.16 on Thursday. The win marked Walliser's 20th in an eight-year-career.

Iraq qualifies for Olympic soccer

MUSCAT (Agencies) — Former World Cup finalists Iraq secured a place at this year's Seoul Olympics with a 1-0 win over Kuwait in a fiercely contested match here.

Joyful Iraqis who watched a live television broadcast of the game in Baghdad greeted the result with volleys of gunfire in the air.

Iraq, two of whose players went off injured, repeatedly re-

peated an increasingly desperate Kuwait in the second half of the game, played in Oman because of a FIFA ban on matches in countries at war.

Karem Allawi scored the only goal after 23 minutes but the Kuwaitis always threatened to equalise.

Kuwaiti captain Faisal Dakhlil missed a wide-open chance in the early minutes of the tie, the first

of several narrow misses.

Kuwait, who qualified for the Moscow Olympics in 1980, had defeated Iraq 2-1 in the first leg of the west Asian Group competition.

The Iraqis in initial eliminations moved with some difficulty up the ladder in the group, having recently tied scorelessly with Saudi Arabia, defeated Qatar 3-1, and lost to Kuwait 2-1.

NBA ROUNDUP

Celtics beat Kings and Pacers edge Spurs

NEW YORK (AP) — The Boston Celtics used the scoring of Kevin McHale and Larry Bird and a 14-0 spurt to take a 34-11 lead after one quarter, and rolled to a 122-86 NBA victory over the Sacramento Kings Friday night.

The Kings never were in the game after the midpoint of the opening period. The closest they came in the last three quarters was 63-44 with 10:03 left in the third quarter in the game in Boston.

McHale had 14 of his 24 points and Bird had 13 of his 27 in the first period. Sacramento hit three of 19 shots, while Boston made 15 of 22 in the quarter.

The loss marred former Celtics

Philadelphia 76ers outscored the New York Knicks 69-46 in the second half for a 119-104 victory.

The win in Philadelphia was the sixers' sixth in their last seven games, while the Knicks have lost 15 of 16 road games this season, including 10 in a row.

Philadelphia took its first lead of the game, 64-63, on a 3-point shot by Barkley with 8:42 left in the third quarter. With the score tied 71-71, Barkley scored six points in a 12-2 Philadelphia spurt for an 83-73 lead at the end of the third period.

Pistons 97, Cavaliers 93

Adrian Dantley scored 14 of his 38 points in the fourth quarter and the Detroit Pistons rallied from a 12-point deficit for a 97-93 victory over the Cleveland Cavaliers.

Cleveland took its biggest lead, 79-67, on a three-point play by Mark West with 40 seconds left in the third quarter in the game in

Pontiac, Michigan.

But Dantley's three-point play later highlighted a 12-0 run as the Pistons took an 83-81 lead with 6:30 left in the game. Dantley scored six points in the final 3:36, including a running hook shot to give Detroit a 95-91 lead with a minute to go.

Cleveland was led by Brad Daugherty's 20 points and 10 rebounds.

Pacers 112, Spurs 108

Indiana erased a 16-point deficit behind a season-high 32 points by John Long and defeated the San Antonio Spurs 112-108.

In the game in San Antonio, Texas, the Pacers took their first lead of the second half on the layup by Wayne Tisdale with 3:41 to go in the fourth quarter. Vern Fleming followed with a 15-foot jumper (5-metre) to give Indiana a 107-104 lead with 3:01 remaining.

Layups by Alvin Robertson, who led San Antonio with 25 points, and Leon Wood put San Antonio ahead 108-107 with 1:34 left.

Supersonics 124, Jazz 105

Dale Ellis scored 39 points and Xavier McDaniel added 26 as the

Seattle Supersonics rolled to their 14th straight home victory, 124-105 over the Utah Jazz.

Ellis scored 14 points in the first quarter, leading Seattle to a 39-24 lead at the end of the period. The Jazz got no closer than seven points the rest of the way.

Karl Malone led Utah with 28 points, while John Stockton added 12.

Utah led 15-11 with seven minutes remaining in the first quarter, but Seattle hit 13 of its next 16 shots while outscoring the Jazz 28-9.

SEoul (R) — South Korea's tense poker game with North Korea over the 1988 Olympics is nearing a climax, with Seoul matching Pyongyang's boycott threat by sweeping acceptance from every main Communist state except Cuba.

By Saturday, the South Koreans had accumulated almost a full house of games participants — 160 of the 167 member countries of the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

They included the Soviet Union and China, two of North Korea's closest allies which publicly backed its demand to co-host the games with Seoul but, when IOC-led talks on the issue broke

down, were not prepared to back a boycott.

Out of consideration for Pyongyang's feelings, both waited until this week to signal their decision as did most other Communist states.

It was not until Friday, just two days before the IOC's acceptance deadline, that hard-line governments Czechoslovakia and Vietnam threw their hats into the ring along with Madagascar and Tanzania, two of Pyongyang's closest third world friends.

The only consolation for North Korea in all this was Friday's announcement by Cuba that it would join Pyongyang in snubbing the Seoul Games running

from Sept. 17 to Oct. 2.

Havana's decision was not totally unexpected. Last year President Fidel Castro had publicly pledged to North Korean leader Kim Il-Sung not to take part unless a satisfactory co-hosting arrangement was reached.

Seoul officials had nevertheless tended to optimism in recent days, arguing that sports-mad Cuba would feel obliged to attend now that it has won the right to host the 1991 Pan-American Games.

In the event, South Koreans saw a silver lining even in Havana's rejection. "At least the Cubans' absence will greatly boost our chances of winning boxing and wrestling medals," said one sports official who declined to be named.

Five nations have yet to respond to the IOC invitation to Seoul — Albania, Ethiopia, Nicaragua, Seychelles and Syria — but already the South Korean capital is assured of hosting the biggest Olympics. The previous highest attendance was 140 countries at Los Angeles in 1984.

Another treat in store is the

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Rackemann keeps team in contention

SYDNEY (R) — Queensland pacesman Carl Rackemann took two wickets in 11 deliveries on Saturday to keep his side well in contention in their vital Sheffield Shield cricket match against champions Western Australia in Perth. At close of play on the second day of the four-day match, Western Australia were 236 for five in their first innings after Queensland had been dismissed for 303. England all-rounder Ian Botham continued to bat responsibly when play began with the visitors 256 for five and took his overnight score of 54 to 70 before he was caught in the slips off left-arm pace bowler Peter Capes. Capes and former Australian opening bowler Terry Alderman finished with identical figures of four for 87.

Soviets reap medals in Europe skating

PRAGUE, Czechoslovakia (AP) — Natalia Bestemanova and Andrei Bukin skated off with their fourth straight ice dance title in another one-two Soviet sweep and Alexander Fadeev retained his lead in the men's event Friday at the European Figure Skating Championships. Behind Bestemanova and Bukin were Natalia Anzenkov and Genrikh Retenski with France's Isabelle and Paul Duchesnay moving from fifth to third with a controversial free dance. The Duchesnays used a series of drums and African rhythms that bore little semblance to usual dance music. The crowd loved their originality but some of the judges didn't. The Polish judge awarded them 4.7 and 4.8 while the rest of the scores were up to 5.8 and 5.9. Bestemanova and Bukin were more conventional to the Polish judges by Barodin. They received eight of nine 6.0's for artistic impression. The remaining mark and the technical merit marks were all 5.9s.

Mexican Grand Prix slated for May

MEXICO CITY (R) — The 1988 Mexican Formula One Grand Prix auto race will be held on May 29 and not on June 5 as originally announced, race organiser Jose Abed has said. Abed said the date change was revealed in a telex from the International Automobile Sport Federation (FISA), the sport's governing body in Paris. "The change in the date is due to the inclusion of the Canadian Grand Prix, which will be held June 12 in Montreal," Abed told Reuters Friday. Abed said FISA had included 17 races for 1988, one more than in previous years. The Mexican race will be the fourth of the season, coming after Rio de Janeiro, Imola and Monaco, Abed said.

Vintage cars go on display in China

HONG KONG (AP) — Twenty-three classic cars departed Saturday from Hong Kong for the mountain city of Guilin in southwest China for the Martell Classic Car China Rally. The cars are scheduled to wheel into Guilin on Monday. A car show with an expected audience of 16,000 will be held on Tuesday. The mobile oldies, lined up with the oldest at the head followed by the rest of the cars in order of decreasing age, will rest for two days in the scenic city, while the drivers sightsee and take a boat trip on the Li River, before heading back to this British colony. The vehicles range from 16 to 36 years old. The event is organised by the Classic Car Club of Hong Kong and the Guangdong Sports Service Co. More than 30 drivers and co-drivers representing nine countries — China, Britain, Australia, Japan, Germany, France, the United States, Denmark and Portugal — are participating. The oldest car in the rally is an England-made 1952 Riley, while the newest entrant is a hand-built 1972 Jensen Interceptor II.

Asian soccer tourney final cancelled

TOKYO (AP) — The final matches of the Asian Club Soccer Championship between Japan and Saudi Arabia have been cancelled since many of the Saudi players are unable to participate, the Japan Soccer Association announced Saturday. The association said Saudi Arabia's Al Helal F.C. had to cancel the games scheduled for Jan. 23 and 29 against Japan's Yomiuri F.C. because many of the Saudi players have to take their university mid-year exams at that time. The teams had been scheduled to play on a home and away basis. The Asian Soccer Confederation is to decide at a general meeting in June if the title should be shared or whether the Japanese team should be declared the champion.

This week that the Soviet Union, Hungary and other Communist states which have no diplomatic representation here were expected to open "Olympic liaison offices" in Seoul in the next few months under provisional consular procedures.

Now that South Korea has successfully countered Pyongyang's boycott threat, the one cloud on Seoul's horizon is its fear that a disappointed North might try to disrupt the Olympics by violence. Saturday's Seoul newspapers bring home the depth of that fear with banner headlines shrieking the government's charges on Friday that Kim Il-Sung's own son ordered the blowing up of a South Korean airliner last November, killing all 115 aboard.

North Korea has denied the accusations.

A young woman, who has confessed to being a North Korean agent and to having helped plant time bombs aboard the doomed plane, said the aim of the attack was to discourage foreign countries from attending the Seoul Olympics.

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N. Korea warns of decisive retaliation Seoul launches diplomatic offensive over lost plane

SEOUL (Agencies) — South Korea launched a diplomatic offensive on Saturday against its arch foe North Korea after accusing Pyongyang of ordering the destruction of a southern airliner last November.

Assistant Foreign Minister Park Soo-Gil told reporters Seoul had asked Japan to cut "all its human and material exchanges" with Pyongyang and to seek measures to prevent North Korean espionage activities on its territory.

A young woman confessed on television in Seoul on Friday to being a North Korean agent and to helping plant bombs aboard the Korean Air Lines (KAL) plane. The aircraft disappeared near the Burmese coast on Nov. 29 with the loss of all 115 people aboard.

North Korea has denied it was involved in the airliner's disappearance.

Mr. Park said Seoul had asked the United States, its main ally, to withdraw a guideline easing curbs on its diplomats speaking to their North Korean counterparts.

Last March, Washington announced it was allowing its diplomats to have serious conversations with North Koreans at diplomatic functions.

Mr. Park also said Seoul had asked Washington to inform North Korea's main allies, the Soviet Union and China, of the

truth about the airline disaster. He said Seoul had presented its evidence of North Korean involvement in the plane's destruction to various international organisations, including the United Nations, the International Olympic Committee and International Civil Aviation Organisation.

South Korean Defence Minister Chung Ho-Yong called a meeting of military chiefs on Friday to discuss "all possible forms of retaliation" against North Korea and placed the country's 600,000 troops on top alert.

Security officials said a lengthy probe into the mid-air destruction of KAL Flight 858 showed beyond a doubt that it was due to sabotage on the direct orders of Kim Jong-Il, son and heir apparent of North Korean leader Kim Il-Sung.

Pyongyang's official Korean Central News Agency said on Friday that Seoul's charges were a fabrication.

It added: "If the South Korean rulers go on with the anti-DPRK (Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea) smear campaign in spite of our warnings, they will bear full responsibility for all the consequences arising therefrom."

North Korea warned of "decisive retaliation" after South Korea pledged to punish the North for the bomb destruction of an airliner.

The statement also accused Seoul of trying to divert attention from peace plans proposed by the North this year, charging that southern leaders had arranged the destruction of the KAL jet themselves.

South Korea's U.N. ambassador called Friday for U.N. members to impose sanctions against North Korea for its alleged role in blowing up a South Korean passenger jet.

But Keun Park told a news conference that no military retaliation was planned against North Korea for the incident.

He said South Korea was considering taking its case to the Security Council but was not yet proposing specific sanctions.

Mr. Park said Seoul demands that North Korea apologise, punish those involved in the plot and pledge never again to commit state terrorism against South Korea.

"Of course, we know they will not heed us," he said.

On Thursday, the Korean envoy presented Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar with a report on the investigation and findings that North Korea plotted the disaster.

Chirac will stand for presidency

PARIS (R) — Conservative Prime Minister Jacques Chirac formally announced Saturday that he would run in France's presidential election to be held in the spring.

"I have decided to be a candidate for the presidency of the republic," said Chirac. "In three months we will elect the head of state for seven years. It is an essential choice on which depends the future of France and the future of each of us."

Chirac is the first major candidate to enter the campaign for the two-round election.

The incumbent president, Francois Mitterrand, has not yet said whether he will seek a second term as candidate for the Socialist Party.

Mitterrand, 71, leads Chirac and his major rival for the right-wing vote, Raymond Barre, in all opinion polls.

Chirac, 55, made his announcement 100 days before the first ballot is expected to be held on April 24 and eight days before his party, the neo-Gaullist RPR, holds its election congress.

Chirac's statement, issued by the prime minister's office, said his campaign would focus on unemployment and youth, and preparing France for the single European market in 1992 when all trade barriers will be removed among the 12 members of the European Community.

2 killed in N. Ireland

BELFAST (R) — Two men were shot dead in separate attacks in Belfast, becoming the first casualties in 1988 of Northern Ireland's sectarian violence, police said on Saturday.

A 29-year-old member of the British army's locally recruited Ulster Defence Regiment (UDR) was killed early on Saturday while walking with his girlfriend on a Belfast street.

The UDR has been a frequent target of the guerrilla Irish Republican Army (IRA), which is fighting to end British rule in the province.

On Friday night, a 19-year-old

Catholic man was shot in his Belfast house in front of his mother, police said.

Sinn Fein, the IRA's political wing, accused pro-British gunmen of selecting an innocent target.

In another Belfast incident, a 17-year-old youth was taken to hospital with bullet wounds in his knee and both ankles after what police believed was a punishment shooting.

Ninety-three people were killed in Northern Ireland in 1987, the worst year for sectarian and political violence since 1982.

Aquino appeals for calm; army goes on high alert

MANILA (R) — President Corason Aquino appealed for calm Saturday as the Philippines headed into the final stretch of an election campaign that has taken 86 lives.

But violence continued as landmine in the south ripped a jeep in half and killed four people, including two candidates and a candidate's wife.

"Let's have clean, peaceful and orderly elections," Mrs. Aquino told a crowd of 10,000 at a campaign rally in Manila, as military sharpshooters peered down from rooftops.

The military has deployed thousands of troops to prevent further bloodshed before Monday's election for more than 16,000 local government positions around the country.

Troops went on high alert in the capital after intelligence agents received unconfirmed reports that right and left-wing extremists might disrupt voting, an army officer told reporters.

The armed forces have blamed much of the pre-poll violence on the Communist New People's Army (NPA), which has been battling the government for 19 years.

They said NPA rebels were responsible for the landmine blast on Friday in Lanao Del Norte province, which killed mayoral candidate Diosdado Estocado, his wife, running mate and driver. Three candidates were reported injured.

The military said rebels swooped down on the vehicle after the blast, firing shots, and then fled.

Namphy urges Haitians to vote in Sunday's polls

PORT-AU-PRINCE (Agencies) — President Henri Namphy has launched a dramatic appeal for Haitians to vote in Sunday's postponed presidential election, which many are predicting will be marked by violence and a low turnout.

Troops were patrolling the entire country to forestall a second wave of violence like the massacres of more than 30 people in November by supporters of ousted dictator Jean-Claude Duvalier that prompted postponement of the polling. Duvalierist candidates have been banned from Sunday's vote.

Gen. Namphy, head of the military-led interim government, attacked recent protests against the election in an address on Friday on state radio.

"Wild strikes have destabilised the nation, demonstrations have been too frequent," Gen. Namphy said in French — usually used to attract attention abroad rather than native Creole.

Haiti, he said, was "threatened from within and from abroad."

"We want to establish true democracy. This election is a unique chance for you, people of Haiti, to take your destiny into your own hands," Gen. Namphy said, just over 24 hours before balloting was to begin.

Few Haitians were confident Sunday's voting would take place and those who were said they expected only a fraction of the electorate to go to the polls. Opposition politicians have called for a general strike on Saturday. Gen. Namphy's address

appeared aimed at telling the world that the polls would be democratic, but international opinion has been sceptical since the introduction of changes in the electoral law allowing the military to monitor all ballots.

In Washington, five members of Congress on Friday asked President Ronald Reagan to reject the presidential elections scheduled for Sunday in Haiti and not to recognise any government that emerges from the balloting.

The legislators said the election is illegitimate because it ignores constitutional mandates and is "a thinly veiled effort by Gen. Namphy and the remnants of the old Duvalier regime to keep themselves in power and their ruthless system of favouritism, cronyism and corruption in place."

The lawmakers, in a letter to Mr. Reagan, noted that an attempt to hold legitimate elections on Nov. 29 was thwarted by violence — believed in many quarters to have been countenanced by Gen. Namphy's interim junta — that left at least 34 people dead.

U.S. fleet in Haiti area

A flotilla of U.S. Navy warships participating in an exercise steamed toward Puerto Rico on Friday, placing them within easy range of Haiti should political violence there spur an evacuation of Americans.

The navy, while acknowledging that ships engaged in Fleetex 8-88 manoeuvres had moved south toward Puerto Rico, refused to pinpoint the vessels' positions.

Reagan gets clean bill of health

WASHINGTON — President Reagan, buoyed in spirit by heady news on the U.S. trade balance, has received a clean bill of health from his doctors after a semi-annual medical checkup.

The doctors said the results of Mr. Reagan's four-hour physical examination on Friday showed that the country's oldest president was fit and free of the cancer which caused him to have major intestinal surgery in 1985.

"The tests indicate the president is in excellent health," Army Col. John Hutton, the White House physician, said in a statement after the 76-year-old president had completed his twice-yearly checkup.

Col. Hutton said doctors had found no polyps — tiny growths

excised from Mr. Reagan's colon during each previous physical since his cancer operation two and one-half years ago — and he said other tests, including a carcan, chest X-ray and stress test were normal.

"The only outstanding laboratory test relates to the prostate and will be available in several days, but we expect no problems," he said.

Mr. Reagan had surgery last year to relieve discomfort caused by an enlarged prostate, which doctors said was common among men of his age.

"This physical indicates the president is fit and enjoys a remarkably strong and healthy condition," Col. Hutton said.

Shevardnadze visits Bonn today

BONN, West Germany (AP) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze arrives Sunday for a visit that marks an important step in the Kremlin's revived diplomatic initiative toward West Germany.

The trip comes amid growing signs of differing opinions on security issues between West Germany and other NATO partners, particularly the United States.

At the same time, the Kremlin and its East European allies have been actively wooing West German officials, especially on trade and defence issues.

Mr. Shevardnadze's visit to Bonn is the first by a top-ranking emissary of Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev and the first trip by a Soviet foreign minister to West Germany in five years.

West German officials describe Mr. Shevardnadze's trip as im-

portant for the development of improved relations with the Soviet Union, and say they hope it will lay the groundwork for a visit by Mr. Gorbachev later this year.

"This is the first visit of a representative of the new leadership in the Soviet Union," said one Foreign Ministry official, speaking on condition of anonymity. "So, both nations view this visit as one of great importance."

U.S. court clears way for return of Zimbabwean boy

NEW YORK (R) — Guardians of the son of a Zimbabwean diplomat accused of torturing the boy fear news of a U.S. Supreme Court decision clearing the way for his return home could harm him emotionally.

Robert McMahon, head of New York's St. Christopher-Ottie Agency which is taking care of the boy, said it would take time before nine-year-old Terrence Karamba is emotionally ready to return to Zimbabwe.

"He is still terrified at the thought of going back. We are not telling him of the Supreme Court decision because he would suffer an emotional setback if we did," McMahon told Reuters.

The State Department, despite pressure from Zimbabwe, says the boy will remain in the United States until a psychiatrist in its employ says he is ready to go.

in foster care by New York City officials who charge his father tortured him, is being prepared gradually for his return home and was not helped by a decision by the boy's mother to return to Harare on Thursday.

The boy's father, former U.N. attaché Floyd Karamba, returned home last month after New York officials said he beat the boy and tied him with an electrical cord.

"Terrence had one visit with his mother since being placed in our care. He pulled his jacket over his head so as not to see her. We had been hoping to work with her and that would expedite matters. But now that she has left, we have to shift gears," McMahon said.

President Reagan has called for Terrence's return, saying Zimbabwe had assured him that the boy would be cared for by a guardian and not his father.

U.S. ensures continued aid to Pakistan

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan moved Friday to ensure continued U.S. aid to Pakistan despite concerns about that country's possible involvement in the smuggling of nuclear-type materials from the United States.

The White House Press Office said Mr. Reagan sent to Congress papers waiving a law that would require a cutoff in aid to Pakistan because of that country's activities in nuclear weapons development.

Mr. Reagan's action, which followed a presidential certification to Congress that Pakistan does not have a nuclear explosive device, assures U.S. military and economic assistance to that country.

The move clears the way for congressionally approved disbursement of \$480 million in the current fiscal year, which ends next Sept. 30, and more than \$4 billion over six years.

"This waiver action was based on the recognition that disrupting one of the pillars of the U.S. relationship with Pakistan (the aid programme) would be counterproductive for the strategic interests of the United States, destabilising for South Asia and unlikely to achieve the non-proliferation objectives sought by the (congressional) sponsors," the press office said.

Concern about Pakistan's activities in the nuclear weapons development area were heightened when Arshad Z. Parvez, a Canadian citizen who is a native of Pakistan, was convicted in Philadelphia of seeking to export from the United States special steel used to construct uranium enrichment plants.

Plane salvaged from Antarctica lands in N. Zealand

WELLINGTON (R) — A U.S. Hercules transport plane abandoned in Antarctica after crashing landed 16 years ago arrived in New Zealand on Saturday on its way home for full restoration.

It landed at Christchurch after an eight hour flight. U.S. officials said there had been no problems on the trip.

The ski-equipped plane was written off after a jet propulsion bottle shot off a wing and mangled propeller blades during takeoff from a remote airstrip on the polar plateau.

No one was hurt, but two Americans were killed when another Hercules crashed and burned at the airstrip a few weeks ago as it landed with spare parts.

321, was not thought to be worth the cost of recovery when it crashed-landed in December, 1971, and was stripped of its engines and equipment.

The price of a new Hercules later changed official minds and two years ago it was dug out from the snow that almost completely buried it over the years.

It was flown to the main U.S. base at McMurdo Sound on Tuesday.

U.S. officials in Christchurch, staging base for Antarctic operations, said the plane was being accompanied by another Hercules providing navigational support.

Captain Dwight Fisher, commander of the U.S. Naval Support Force, told New Zealand reporters by telephone from

McMurdo that the plane would fly to Christchurch with its landing gear down.

"The old system for the landing gear needs to be checked out, so it is safer to fly with the wheels down. That way there will be no problems when the plane arrives in Christchurch," he said.

New Zealand scientists said, meanwhile, that they had found the first aircraft lost in Antarctica, a Fokker monoplane used during U.S. Admiral Richard Byrd's first expedition to the continent.

The aircraft was damaged beyond repair during a storm in March, 1929. It was found lying upside down on a frozen lake.

The fabric which originally covered the plane has been torn off by winds and the engine is mis-

sing.

Peter Cleary, a member of the expedition that found the plane, said he was amazed to find it so exposed.

"Most of the aircraft is on the surface, which is incredible when you consider it's been lying there for nearly 60 years," he said.

"Only the tail and the lower portion of the wing are buried in ice."

Officials said New Zealand was unlikely to try to salvage the plane.

"We regard the airplane as United States property. It is always possible American interests, such as the Smithsonian Institution, may want the aircraft," a spokesman for the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research said.

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Soviets invent safer contact lens

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet scientists have invented a safer form of contact lens, using extracts from crab shells, the newspaper Sovetskaya Rossiya said on Saturday. The newspaper, which called the invention a "world medical first", said the formula made lenses for short-sightedness "absolutely harmless" and removed all risk of allergic reaction. It did not specify which properties of the crab shells made the lenses safer, but added that scientists had developed an unprecedented technique for removing the extracts.

Malibu fumes over new cigarettes' name

MALIBU, California — Residents of this seaside celebrity community are fuming over a tobacco company's decision to name a new brand of cigarettes after their town. "I just can't believe it," said avid anti-smoker Larry Hagnan, star of TV's Dallas and resident of the exclusive Malibu colony. "My hair stood on end when I saw it." Malibu cigarettes, new from American Tobacco Co., are just the latest in a long list of products named for the posh home to the stars. But residents say namesakes ranging from Barbie dolls to Chevrolets were more acceptable than a pack of filter-tipped 100s. "I don't equate cigarettes with the sun and the ocean and I doubt that other people do," said Hagnan, chairman of the great America smokeout campaign for seven years. "It makes me very, very angry. But it's typical of the tobacco industry. 'I guess I'm just too cynical to take it seriously,' said actress Ali McGraw, another Malibu resident. "Frankly, I'm amazed that it's taken this long. Malibu has always been a catchword for a wonderful way of life, so it's ironic that they're selling cigarettes, since they represent just the opposite of a healthy place to live," she said.

Girl jailed for part in murders

PARIS (R) — A teenage French girl who lured men to violent deaths at the hands of her two boyfriends was sentenced to 16 years in jail by a Paris court. Valerie Subra's two friends, Jean-Remi Sarraut and Laurent Harlab, were sentenced to 18 years. The trio, dubbed "the devils" in the French press, were convicted of the premeditated murders of two businessmen in December 1984. The court heard how Subra, who was 19 at the time, picked up the men in Paris nightclubs and lured them to assignments, where they were robbed, tortured and stabbed to death by Sarraut and Harlab. Lawyer Gerard Le Laidier died after inviting Subra, a clothes shop assistant, for a cosy dinner at his flat. A week later, businessman Laurent Zarrade was killed. Police said the three committed the crimes to get money to emigrate to the United States and set up a clothing business.

Indians want Redskins by another name

MINNEAPOLIS (R) — A group of American Indians has taken to the warpath against the Washington Redskins football team. Thirty Minnesota Indians are campaigning to force the Redskins to change their name and remove the logo of an American Indian from their helmets. "Redskins" ... makes us look like some kind of savage, warlike person," said Fred Villeux, a member of the concerned American Indian parents. His group, which led a successful campaign last year to force a Minneapolis public school to change the name of its teams from "the Indians" to "the Lakers", is distributing a poster to make its point. The poster, which shows banners bearing hypothetical sports teams named for other ethnic groups, is captioned: "Maybe now you know how native Americans feel."

Fellini's 8½ voted Best European Film

BRUSSELS (R) — Italian director Federico Fellini's 1963 film 8½ has been voted the Best European Film of the last three decades by a jury of leading figures in cinema and television. The panel, asked to pick the best 12 films of the European Community's 30-year existence, selected Frenchman Jean-Luc Godard's A Bout de Souffle (Out of Breath) in second place. A second Fellini film, Amarcord, was placed third in a European "top twelve" announced this week to coincide with the Brussels International Film Festival and the launch of European Cinema and Television Year. 8½, starring Marcello Mastroianni, has been described as a film about a film, a dazzling and sometimes disconcerting sequence of images and ideas interspersed with sometimes crude flashes of humour. Italian Luciano Visconti's Death in Venice and Swede Ingmar Bergman's Fanny and Alexander were among the other runners-up announced in Brussels by former European Parliament President Simone Veil, and Carlo Ripa Di Meana, EC commissioner for culture.

Controversial movie wins top award

PEKING (AP) — A controversial movie about a small town's suffering during the Cultural Revolution won China's top film award after months of behind-the-scenes wrangling. "A Small Town Called Hibiscus" won the 1987 Golden Rooster Best Movie Award and its female lead, Liu Xiaoping, was named best actress. The official Xinhua News Agency reported. The Golden Rooster Awards have been given out annually since 1981, usually in the spring. The 1987 awards, however, were postponed until now without official explanation, apparently because of controversy over Hibiscus. The movie, based on the novel by Gu Hua, is set in the 1960s and '70s. It focuses on pretty, young Hu Yuyin, who runs a bean curd stand and together with her husband saves enough money to build a new house. When the far-leftist Cultural Revolution breaks out the couple are condemned as capitalists and the husband commits suicide. Hu Yuyin, forced to sweep the streets in punishment, bears a child out of wedlock with a fellow victim of the leftist. In the end, both are vindicated.

Cyclist held for trespassing

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida (AP) — A cyclist wanted to order a big mac hamburger and French fries, but ended up with a jailhouse breakfast after demanding service at a drive-through window for cars. Robert Fox, a Michigan boat captain, said it was worth spending a night in jail on charges of trespassing at a McDonald's restaurant. "It was the principle of the thing. I felt they were discriminating against me as a bicyclist," he said after friends provided the \$25 he needed for bail Thursday at the Broward County Jail. Fox, 33, left a boat crew he had been helping and pedaled to the fast-food restaurant for lunch Wednesday. A restaurant worker wouldn't take his order, saying only motorists were served at the drive-through window. Fox insisted. The police were called. Officers tried to reason with Fox and finally warned him he would be arrested for trespassing if he kept it up. He did.

Broadway producer commits suicide

NEW YORK (AP) — The producer responsible for making a revival of Oh Calcutta with its sassy script and naked performers, into one of Broadway's longest-running plays died after stabbing his wife to death, then leaping from the roof of a 15-story building, police say. "I'm in shock," said Doris Buberl, general manager of the show, after learning that Norman Kean, 53, apparently committed suicide Friday afternoon. Detective Joseph McConville said he apparently jumped from the roof of his building after stabbing his wife, 53-year-old Gwyda, and leaving a suicide note, the contents of which police would not disclose. Mrs. Buberl said she made sure the cast did not learn of the deaths until after Friday's performance. A relative found the body of Mrs. Kean, with a single stab wound to the back, in the bedroom of their residence about four hours after Kean's body was found, McConville said.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠Q10763 ♣7 ♠A986 ♠KJ10
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Pass Pass 1 ♠ Pass

What do you bid now?
A.—In support of spades, your hand revalues to a full opening bid. However, since you are a passed hand you cannot afford to jump to three spades—that would not be forcing. Therefore, a leap to four spades is the clear choice.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A103 ♣AQJ95 ♢J6 ♠A87
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass

What do you bid now?
A.—Since partner has a maximum of 16 points, your combined holding is not enough to venture to slam. And even though you have a good five-card heart suit, you shouldn't rebid three hearts, because that would suggest an unbalanced hand with a six-card suit. The correct bid is the obvious raise to three no trump.

Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠95 ♣783 ♢A106 ♠KJ532
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South
1 ♠ 2 ♠ ?

What action do you take?
A.—This hand is simple if you play five-card majors—you can raise to two hearts in comfort. And that is the only bid available if you play four-card majors. We do not live in a perfect world, so you just have to take a chance that partner has either five cards in his suit or a good

four-card holding.

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AJ102 ♣7653 ♢85 ♠954
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 NT Pass ?

What action do you take?
A.—Partner has made a game invitation on a balanced hand. Even though you could hardly have less for your raise, you are not relieved of the obligation to play in your best spot. With your ruffing value and four-card support, you must correct to three spades.

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠954 ♣AK83 ♢1062 ♠A74
As dealer, what is your opening bid?

A.—In the days when this hand counted as three honor tricks, it was a mandatory opening. In this era of point count, you have a flat 11 points, which is a bit short of an opening bid. Pass. In third seat, we would venture one heart, intending to pass any response by partner.

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠6 ♣Q108763 ♢92 ♠J642
The bidding has proceeded:
East South West North
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ 3 NT
Pass ?

What action do you take?
A.—When did partner invite you into the auction? You can expect him to have a long, solid minor suit, at least one spade stopper and an outside trick or two. Hope that you have enough for him to make the contract. Pass. Four hearts is strictly a no-no.